

Britain and France plan nuclear ties

American reaction seen as most sensitive issue

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Britain and France are to take a significant step to forge closer links on nuclear strategy, as a result of the new impetus in the superpower arms control negotiations, according to senior foreign ministry sources in Paris.

British and French officials from the foreign and defence ministries are to meet this month to discuss a whole range of strategic issues, which could lead to an unprecedented breakthrough in nuclear co-operation.

The meeting, which the Foreign Office in London would not even confirm, will develop ideas discussed in Paris by Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for

Defence, and his French counterpart, M André Girard, in March.

According to the sources in Paris, the Anglo-French discussions have taken on a new sense of urgency because of the likelihood of an intermediate-range (INF) agreement in November between the United States and Soviet Union and the possibility of a 50 per cent reduction in their strategic missiles.

Although talks between British and French officials on nuclear issues have been going

The two countries' strategic nuclear deterrents consist of: Britain: four Polaris submarines, to be replaced with four Trident submarines.

France: six submarines, to be replaced by a new generation in the 1990s.

on for several years, the sources in Paris said that they had never been viewed with much enthusiasm until now.

This month's meeting will include a crucial discussion about the possibility of creating some form of link between the French and British independent deterrents. The sources said the officials will study the political and military implications of co-ordinating the patrol patterns of British and French nuclear ballistic submarines.

Britain currently has four Polaris submarines, to be replaced in the 1990s by four Trident vessels with an eight-fold increase in targeting capability. France has six ballistic missile submarines, but is developing a new force, the first of which is due to enter service in 1994.

Under present strategy, Britain has only one Polaris submarine on patrol at any one time. The French aim is to have three submarines on patrol.

No one in Paris or London believes that France and Britain are about to agree on a joint system for ballistic submarine patrols but, according to the senior French sources, the atmosphere is now right to make further studies of such a proposal. The sources, however, ruled out any possibility of a shared targeting policy.

The reaction of the Americans is seen as the most

sensitive issue, particularly if France and Britain were to go one step further and talk about the possibility of developing a joint nuclear deterrent for the post-Trident era.

Last week, Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence, said in the BBC Lisbon lecture that France and Britain should co-operate in research and development of a deterrent for after 2025.

But the officials in Paris said that any move towards an Anglo-French deterrent would have to be given formal American blessing. Under the present nuclear agreements between the US and Britain, there are strict clauses about the transfer of nuclear technology.

The US would formally have to release Britain from its nuclear ties to Washington, if there were to be any Anglo-French link-up over the development of a future deterrent, the sources suggested.

A French official said yesterday: "We're not obliged to go immediately from a situation where we have no co-operation to where we have the same weapon. There is an intermediate time in which we can work out our common positions."

But one official in Paris commented: "What is feared is that if there is closer and more active co-operation between Britain and France and in Europe generally, the Americans might be encouraged to withdraw their commitment to Europe. This is why there is hesitation, even in Germany, over pressuring the United States to let the Europeans co-operate among themselves."

One senior source said: "We're at the stage of launching ideas. The atmosphere has changed significantly between our two countries in the defence field."

For this month's meeting and for future meetings, the French strategists believe that one of the most important issues is to agree on an assessment of the threat, and how to cope with it, while the arms control negotiations continue in Geneva.

Queen 'forced Rabuka change'

By Michael Evans in London and Stephen Taylor in Suva

The Queen's intervention this week in the Fijian crisis, denouncing Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's plans to turn the islands into a republic, was a decisive factor in his dramatic change of heart yesterday, according to diplomatic sources.

A secret summit between Colonel Rabuka and Fiji's leaders pointed to the end of attempts by the military regime to press ahead with its scheme to scrap the Constitution.

After the meeting at Government House, the hill-top mansion which has become the focus of resistance to his coup last week, Colonel Rabuka was reported as saying that his plans would have to wait.

A statement from Buckingham Palace on Tuesday said that anyone who sought to remove the Governor-General from office would be repudiating his loyalty to the Queen.

Diplomatic sources said Colonel Rabuka had been brought back from the brink because of his sense of loyalty to the Queen and the promise by the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, that some of the constitutional changes he was demanding could be implemented.

The sources said: "Rabuka is holding out for real changes in the Constitution, and the crux of the whole question now is whether or not it's possible to get agreement on the changes he wants."

The announcement that Colonel Rabuka had pulled back from creating a republic was greeted with relief in London. Foreign Office officials said there was now real hope that the crisis could be resolved.

The Governor-General is understood to have contacted the Queen yesterday to give her the news.

The New Zealand Cabinet, which had decided yesterday to impose economic measures against Fiji, including an end to sugar negotiations and military aid, agreed to put the sanctions "on hold".

The constitutional changes to be discussed at the second meeting on Monday at Government House will include a guarantee that the Governor-General, the Chief Justice and the Prime Minister will always be Fijians, an increased number of seats for Fijians in Parliament to ensure they hold the majority, and a change in the voting system.

Colonel Rabuka said it might not be necessary to

Continued on page 24, col 7

Labour avoids pledge on nationalization



Mr Bryan Gould speaking yesterday at the Labour Party conference in Brighton: "Why don't we use shares to hand real power to working people" (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Kinnock gets taste of battles to come

By Philip Webster

Mr Neil Kinnock's planned revision of Labour policies got off to a difficult start yesterday when the annual conference in Brighton displayed deep unease over the expected change in the party's stance on public ownership.

In a warning shot to the leadership to proceed cautiously, the conference went close to passing a motion that would have committed the party to renationalizing all the industries privatized by the Conservatives.

And Mr Bryan Gould, one of the central figures in the review of Labour's policies, was given a rough ride by some delegates when he went before the conference to advocate the sale of shares to workers.

Mr Kinnock was given another foretaste of the potentially rocky road ahead last night when Mr Ken Livingstone, on the eve of today's defence debate, said that any attempt to abandon Labour's non-nuclear policy would start a civil war within the party.

Central to the leadership's review of the policy of public ownership is the belief that it must take account of the popularity of the Government's privatization programme, and the impracticability of taking back all privatized industries.

However, a motion proposed by the National Union of Mineworkers calling for the "unequivocal" return to public ownership of privatized industries was easily carried on a show of hands.

To protests from left-wing delegates, the conference chairman put the issue to a card vote, and the block votes of the big unions were mobilized to defeat it by 3,869,000 votes to 2,397,000.

Leadership sources admitted that, much to their relief, that disaster had been narrowly averted.

Earlier, Mr Gould's speech had been awaited nervously by some Labour leaders. He may be the fastest rising star in the party but his calls for a policy review have been running into strong opposition from the left.

Mr Gould told delegates that the far-reaching review was unlikely to shake Labour's commitment to some form of public ownership for major parts of the economy, the major utilities and the natural monopolies.

But, he asked: "Why don't we say that we will make a reality of what Mrs Thatcher offers only as an illusion? Instead of scattering shares

Continued on page 24, col 5

Small BP investors guarantee

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government is to set aside 5 per cent of its BP holding now on offer - worth an estimated £355 million - to guarantee small investors who want to buy a stake in the company at least 2375 at current market price.

To qualify for the priority allocation, potential investors must register an interest by October 9. So far 5 million have done so.

The Government will set the sale price on October 15, and trading in the partly paid shares is expected to begin at 2.30pm on October 28. Interest is such that the City is revising upwards its estimate that the shares will open at a 30 per cent premium.

The attractiveness of BP to large and overseas investors is also likely to improve within the next few days, as it is expected that the company will announce details of a plan to have off part of its holdings in goldmines in the United States and the Far East. The sale could bring in an estimated £500 million and help the company's balance sheet.

Guilty verdicts in shares case

Best jailed for dishonesty

By David Cross

Keith Best, a former Conservative MP, yesterday became the first person to be jailed for dishonestly making multiple applications for shares in a privatized company.

Best, aged 38 and a barrister, was sentenced to four months in prison and fined £3,000, with £1,500 of costs, for dishonestly attempting to obtain British Telecom shares by deception in November 1984.

He had pleaded not guilty at Southwark Crown Court to three specimen charges involving 4,800 shares. A jury of 10 men and two women convicted him on each of the charges by a majority of 10-2 after retiring for two and a half hours.

Sentencing Best, Judge Butler said that he had engaged in "carefully calculated acts of dishonesty", designed to provide a substantial profit. "Nor have you expressed one word

of regret. I realize your career is now in ruins and I bear in mind your previously exemplary character.

"But conduct of this kind is all too frequent, and you - and I would add all those who might be considering behaving as you did - must be made to realize that this does not pay."

In mitigation, Mr Robin Simpson, QC, said that the former MP for Ynys Mon

How Best was caught... 2

(Anglesey) had been the only person to be prosecuted out of a very large number of people who had put in applications for BT shares with variants of their own name. He added: "Not one aspect of his life has not been blighted by these verdicts."

Not only was his parliamentary career at an end, his position at the Bar was in the most serious jeopardy.

Best, who had blinked back tears during the trial when his counsel had spoken of his unimpeachable character, was expressionless as he stood to be sentenced and left the dock for Brighton jail. A High Court judge later ordered, as agreed that he should be granted an expedited appeal hearing before next Thursday.

Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath and a close friend of the jailed MP, said after the verdict that he was surprised at the severity of the sentence. Mr Brian Sedgemore, the Labour MP who helped to expose Best, said that he felt sorry for him. "But let this be a lesson for other Tory MPs," he said.

Best, who had once set his sights on becoming Secretary of State for Wales, was originally arrested the day before the last Parliament was dissolved in May.

Captain Mark Phillips, husband of the Princess Royal, was yesterday fined £120 with £15 costs for driving on the M4 at more than 103mph.

Three points were added to four already on his licence, but the magistrates decided not to disqualify him.

Mr Desmond Barton, chairman of the West Berkshire bench, said that the decision was entirely in the magistrates' discretion. "Having considered all the circumstances disclosed to us today, the court is not going to disqualify you," he told Captain Phillips.

The decision prompted Mr

Prison officer led around by chain

By Kerry Gill

The prison officer held hostage at Peterhead jail was dragged around the roof by a chain round his waist yesterday as his remaining three captors became more desperate.

For more than half an hour yesterday the officer, Mr Jackie Stuart, was led half walking and half crawling across the roof of the badly damaged D Hall by one of the prisoners.

He was threatened with a hammer, and for some of the time was pinioned by a prisoner's knee on the gable end of the roof of the high-security prison near Aberdeen.

As Mr Stuart, aged 55, was dragged about the roof, the prisoners yelled abuse at prison authorities below and sent a hail of slate and roofing materials to the ground.

At shortly after 2 pm Mr Stuart was dragged to the gable end of D Hall and made to lie

down. Brandishing a hammer above Mr Stuart's head, one of the inmates made as if to club him. His captor chanted: "He gets it", apparently referring to his threat to club the officer. Mr Stuart screamed: "Help, help!"

A prisoner in a pink shirt ran on to the adjacent A Hall, swearing at the authorities and hurling slates and an iron bar to the ground, while Mr Stuart lay slumped over the parapet with his head in his arms, clearly very distressed.

The Scottish Office said last night that they had spoken to Mr Stuart after the incident, and he had assured them he was still all right.

It also revealed that though there were four prisoners in D Hall yesterday morning, one of them had locked himself in his cell when the trouble began. He was freed during the day.

He said he did not know how he would be able to continue farming in Gloucestershire without a driving licence.

His farm was divided into three parts with about a mile of public road between each.

He said that this evening he was due to drive to the north of England, and then to Ayrshire in Scotland where he was to look at horses as possible replacements for his Range Rover-sponsored jumping team.

Tomorrow evening he would be going to a dinner in London with sponsors for

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Captain Phillips is allowed to keep his licence



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Mr Michael Sullivan, for Captain Phillips, told the magistrates that a disqualification would seriously inconvenience Captain Phillips and disrupt his business life.

Captain Phillips said that he regularly drove more than 30,000 miles a year, and when he was stopped in a police radar trap on July 28 he was "coming up to 1,400 miles driven in the previous five days."

He said he did not know how he would be able to continue farming in Gloucestershire without a driving licence.

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TIMES FOCUS

Bookselling is discarding its slightly muddled image and a Special Report looks at the change... Pages 20,21

IN PART 2

Rules first

Recruiters must follow proper disciplines to find the right staff, says the introduction to today's general appointments section... Pages 33-39

Drugs move

The campaign against drugs in sport was boosted with the announcement of an Eastern bloc initiative... Page 46

Portfolio Gold

Two readers shared The Times Portfolio Gold competition prize of £4,000 yesterday. Details, page 3. There is £4,000 to be won today.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Stalker affair
man charged

The property developer whose business dealings led to an investigation into the conduct of the former Manchester Deputy Chief Constable, Mr John Stalker, appeared in court yesterday accused of trying to obtain money by deception from a bank. Mr Kevin Taylor was arrested at his offices in St John's Street, Manchester, after a three-year investigation.

Mr Taylor and his firm's accountant, Derek Britton, aged 54, were charged with conspiring with others dishonestly to obtain for Kevin Taylor and Ranglark Ltd overdraft loans from the Co-operative Bank by misrepresenting the value of properties offered as securities.

It is understood £1 million is involved. Both men were granted bail, ordered to reappear in court in three weeks and instructed to have no personal contact with any of the 92 prosecution witnesses listed.

Mr Taylor, aged 55, of Wood Road Lane, Summerseat, near Bury, has claimed the police investigation cost him more than £2 million and jeopardized his country home. In a letter to Bury council last month applying for rate relief Mr Taylor said he had no funds and no income.

Maestro
honoured

Klaus Tennstedt, the conductor, who has throat cancer, was yesterday announced as Conductor Laureate of the London Philharmonic at the Gramophone Record Awards 1987 ceremony.

He also won the best orchestral recording award for EMI's issue of Mahler's Symphony No 8 with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir.

The Record of the Year award went to the Cimmell label with works by Josquin Desprez sung by the Tallis Scholars, directed by Peter Phillips.

Heads fight reforms

More than 2,000 organizations and individuals have responded to proposals for reforming state education, the Department of Education says. The two headteachers' organizations yesterday criticized plans for more national tests, for opting out of local authority control and for allowing extra admissions to popular schools. A document on allowing schools to impose charges is due this week.

Jail for
dog killer

Paul Edward Evans, of Sandown Lane, Wavertree, Liverpool, who beheaded his estranged wife's dog with a spade was jailed for two months yesterday by Liverpool magistrates.

Evans, aged 34, who denied cruelty, was also ordered to pay £95 compensation for the dog. The RSPCA branded the attack "barbaric".

Evans faced the court yesterday already serving a three-month sentence for breaking a High Court injunction relating to the couple's divorce proceedings.

Farmers'
plight

One in 10 farmers in Britain is in financial difficulties, according to senior bank officials.

Rising costs and lower prices in real terms are likely to force several thousand producers off the land in the next few years, it is estimated.

Most of the farmers in trouble are said to have borrowed heavily at high interest rates and, in some cases, are borrowing more to service loan charges.

The National Farmers' Union says that the problems are spread throughout the industry.

Higher fares urged on South-east trains

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

British Rail's Network South-East, which carries about 40 per cent of London's commuter traffic, should increase its fares and improve services, a report published yesterday says.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission report says Network South-East (NSE) has trouble meeting punctuality and overcrowding standards, and questions whether the level of first class fares takes full account of the extra space first class commuters occupy.

The report is particularly critical of the time taken to negotiate agreements with unions, and of the fact that, on average, drivers spend less

than half of their working time driving.

The commission says extra investment may be required if the network is to raise its standards of service to satisfactory levels.

However, both Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, and Mr Chris Green, director of NSE, said that recommendation had been overtaken by events.

Mr Channon announced, when officially inaugurating a newly electrified line from London to East Grinstead, that he was authorizing the ordering of 16 more trains for use mainly between Liverpool Street Station and Cambridge. That brought the number of units on the line to 46.

Mr Green said he welcomed

the commission's report. It had identified the two most pressing problems on the network: services for commuters to the north Kent coast, and services from Liverpool Street.

The commission's recommendations for increased investment in these areas were already being met, he said, by the new trains Mr Channon had authorized and by the 1988 rail plan, which would provide for the lengthening of platforms at north Kent commuter stations.

He hoped a £50 million programme to install a new signalling system between Liverpool Street and Chelmsford would be announced by the end of the year.

The report said the commission was impressed by what

had been achieved since it last examined the London commuter services in 1980.

There had been a substantial increase in efficiency, and the need for public support had been reduced by more than a third to under £200 million. Better use of rolling stock had saved an estimated £10 million a year in running costs. Manpower had been reduced by 13 per cent.

Nevertheless, the report said, satisfactory service standards on all parts of the network were still a long way off.

The report's main points:

- Fares: British Rail may need to consider bigger fare increases than planned, in conjunction with improved service.

There may be scope for relatively smaller fare increases on lines where service is chronically poor.

The costs and revenue of first class travel should be reviewed.

● Peak travel: British Rail should consider introducing early morning season tickets to encourage commuters to travel before the rush hour.

● Fare dodgers: The commission supports BR's plan to seek legislation for penalty fares for those who travel without a valid ticket. Fare-dodging is estimated to cost NSE £21 million a year.

● Manpower: BR needs to use its labour resources more efficiently.

● Punctuality: Although average figures for punctuality appear not unsatisfactory,

there are wide variations between lines, and on some, such as those from Liverpool Street and to the Kent coast, there has been little, if any, improvement since 1979.

● Reliability: There have been considerable improvements since 1979, but the situation still varies from month to month.

● Overcrowding: This has increased during the past five years. The report gives one journey from Barking in Essex to Liverpool Street Station in which 617 passengers had to stand for a minimum of 27 minutes.

British Railways Board: Network South-East. Report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (Stationery Office, £12.70).

Leading article page 13

Government
advisers to
study space
race funding

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Government's funding of space ventures is to be investigated by the new Advisory Council on Science and Technology (Acost).

Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of Acost and of Rolls-Royce, disclosed yesterday that the first meeting of the council later this month has ordered a round-table discussion on space. It will also invite technologists to put their case for an increase in government funding.

Acost will then make recommendations to Mrs Thatcher on the sort of space projects they believe she should support.

Mr Roy Gibson, the former director general of the British National Space Centre, is expected to be among those invited.

He resigned this week in protest at the Government's refusal to back the centre's first space plan which called for the £100 million annual space budget to be trebled.

He said the increase would allow Britain to compete in the space race with other European countries on more equal terms.

The Government has not disclosed details of the plan, submitted more than a year ago, although Mrs Thatcher rejected the call for increased funding in July. However, a decision is needed within six

weeks when EEC ministers discuss future collaboration on space projects.

Acost, which includes scientists, academics and businessmen, has also set up a working group to look at why so many small firms never grow bigger. It is expected to advise the Government on how to help such companies.

Whitehall sources made plain yesterday that Acost will shun publicity, in spite of calls by the House of Lords. The Times and the scientific community for a more open debate on research and development.

An official said that as Acost's job is to advise the Prime Minister on what sort of research project the Government and industry should be supporting, its reports needed to be confidential.

● The lack of support from industry for university research was condemned last night by Professor Eric Ash, rector of Imperial College, London.

He said companies rarely allocated more than 1 to 2 per cent of their research budget for supporting work with universities.

Professor Ash was even more scathing of a "deeply anti-intellectual" attitude that pervaded government, intruding on plans for the restructuring of universities.

Captain Phillips fined
Royal speeder escapes ban

Continued from page 1

back at his farm "tying up last bits and pieces before going abroad."

His plans for the coming months included a business trip to the Far East and the Antipodes. In New Zealand he would be expected to drive considerable distances at "anti-social hours", and in Australia he would have to pick up a car at the airports, drive to equestrian centres, and take part in two-day events for Jaguar/Rover, partly on public roads.

Mr Sullivan said that a ban in a British court would prevent his client driving in Australia, although there would be no technical objection to his driving in Japan, Korea or New Zealand.

"It is a measure of Captain Phillips's concern and a measure of the inconvenience that a disqualification will cause him that he has come to give evidence today."

Announcing the court's decision after a 20-minute adjournment, Mr Barton gave Captain Phillips no public reprimand or warning beyond a reminder that the three points endorsed on his licence now brought the total to seven.

After the hearing Mr Peter Haggood, the legal adviser to the West Berkshire bench, said that they heard 300 to 400 speeding cases each quarter, a large number of which involved speeds in excess of 100mph on the M4.

He said: "A very high proportion of those do result in disqualification, but on the other hand there are cases every week in which defendants with speeds of 105 or 110 miles an hour might escape disqualification. Each individual case is judged entirely on its own merits."

In one recent case a doctor



Captain Phillips on his way to court yesterday, where he was fined £120

was disqualified, although he said he needed his car to answer emergencies, but a man living in a remote area of Wales as a single parent was excused disqualification because he needed to drive his son to school. A salesman convicted of driving at 110mph was banned for only seven days after the bench was told that a longer disqualification would cost him his job.

Captain Phillips fidgeted and laughed nervously on several occasions while giving evidence. He was driven to court in a Range Rover, and in the melee to capture photo-

graphs of his arrival a freelance photographer fell down a step outside the court and broke a leg.

Captain Phillips and his driver were allowed to park behind the court and to use an exit route usually reserved for police cars.

Before leaving the court Captain Phillips said: "I have nothing more to say. I believe that all that needed to be said was said in court."

Mr Barton is a retired estate agent. His colleagues on the bench yesterday were a housewife and a businessman.

How Best shares
deal was uncovered

By David Cross and Lawrence Lever

The six applications for 39,000 British Telecom shares which Keith Best, a former Conservative MP, completed would never have come to light had it not been for an employee of the left-wing publication Labour Research.

Going through the British Telecom share index earlier this year, apparently searching for Labour MPs who might have bought shares in the privatized company, he noticed that six of the surnames Best were accompanied by variations of the same Christian names, Keith and Lander. On closer scrutiny he discovered that although four of the addresses were different, they all related to Keith Best, the MP for Ynys Mon (Anglesey) in North Wales.

It later emerged that cheques totalling £19,500 for initial instalments on 39,000 shares had been drawn on different bank accounts.

In the publicity which surrounded the disclosure of Best's multiple applications, clearly intended to have a deterrent effect, Mr Michael Harding, of the accountants Ernst & Whinney, said. They will police next month's British Petroleum share issue.

since maintained that he was doing nothing illegal.

At Best's three-day trial counsel for the defence said that making multiple applications for new share issues was a common practice in the City and elsewhere, and had gone unchecked for years. Moreover, unlike many others, he had made no attempt to invent fictitious names and had used a similar tactic when he applied for Jaguar shares.

But by April, when Best was interviewed by the fraud squad, the climate of opinion against those suspected of trying to obtain more shares than they were entitled to had changed. With the spotlight focused on the less ethical activities of the City, the Director of Public Prosecutions had little choice but to prosecute.

Yesterday's custodial sentence, the first for such a deception offence, was seen in the City as a warning to other potential share cheats. "It is clearly intended to have a deterrent effect," Mr Michael Harding, of the accountants Ernst & Whinney, said. They will police next month's British Petroleum share issue.

8% deal
for Civil
Servants

By Roland Radd

The Society of Civil and Public Servants has signed a new pay deal worth up to 8 per cent.

In July, the Government gave members of the union a 4.25 per cent pay rise. The society won an extra 2 per cent in September, and the latest deal is worth up to 1.8 per cent, resulting in a total of 8 per cent.

The Treasury said yesterday it would be misleading to group all the individual agreements together. The new "concordat" was a package deal which tied the society into accepting new measures aimed at improving efficiency and cutting costs, the introduction and development of new technology.

The deal will also be available to the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, although it is understood that Mr Leslie Christie, SCPS general secretary, has insisted that the federation should sign the package and not benefit from a simple knock-on effect.

The Civil and Public Services Association, Britain's biggest civil service union, is now the only union not to have negotiated a deal.

On the question of lenient sentences, Mr Brittan conceded that, if the Court of Appeal found a sentence inadequate but was unable to correct it, public outrage would be inflamed, not diminished. The right course was to allow the Court of Appeal to increase a sentence, but only the Attorney-General should have the right of referral.

The Criminal Bar Association is also opposed to both legal reforms. In a submission to the Home Secretary, it says that there should be a Royal Commission to review the whole sentencing system.

Support for both reforms came yesterday from Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, the retiring Director of Public Prosecutions.

He said there was a strong case for abolishing the right of silence. "It should be open to the judge to comment on the fact that the defendant chose not to answer questions."

Sir Thomas, who delayed his retirement to oversee the introduction of the Crown Prosecution Service, which is one year old today, said that despite many criticisms, the service was one of his proudest achievements.

More money was needed and career prospects had to be looked at, "but my general opinion is that throughout the country it seems to be settling down remarkably well," he said. "We are at last giving a criminal justice system which is reasonably consistent and fair to the public."

Ulster university staff
try border smuggling

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

University officials from Northern Ireland smuggled brochures and leaflets across the border at dawn yesterday to avoid heavy value added tax and export licence charges.

The officials, hoping to recruit Irish students to their colleges, fell foul of strict new rules on imported goods.

The Irish government has now told Customs officers not to charge for literature which the universities planned to distribute free at an education conference in Dublin.

Forty-eight colleges got to the conference without paying duty. But up to 12 universities and polytechnics were charged 25 per cent Vat on leaflets and even on display stands.

Miss Christina Murphy, an Irish Times reporter, said:

"The situation is chaotic. Some people got through Customs without any trouble, others, such as Queen's University, Belfast, and the University of Ulster, have been stopped at the border and asked to pay £1,000 in export licence and Vat."

Mr Patrick Conway, academic registrar of the University of Ulster, said it could make it difficult to continue to provide an information service to the South.

● Overheads are set to increase for the Irish Republic's "mousetrap" manufacturers. A new Customs and Excise Bill, circulated in Dublin yesterday, includes fines increased from £200 to £1,000 for anyone found distilling illicit liquor.

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Widow who stabbed rapist to death in self-defence is freed

By Andrew Morgan

A woman who admitted killing a man while he raped her was freed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after the judge ruled that she acted in self-defence, but warned rape victims not to look upon the case as a charter to kill their attackers.

Mrs Janet Clugstone, aged 38, wept as Judge Hazan ordered the jury to return a verdict of not guilty after deciding that the prosecution had offered no evidence that the man's death was a revenge killing.

He told her: "I hope you will be able to put these terrible events and what must have been a nightmare over the past few months behind you and resume a normal life."

But Judge Hazan told the court: "My ruling in this case is not to be regarded in any way as a charter for victims of serious assaults, even rape victims, to kill their assailants. Revenge killings are unlawful and, depending on the circumstances, amount to murder and manslaughter."

Afterwards, representatives of the *News of the World* escorted Mrs Clugstone from the court. Her daughter, Tracy, aged 22, said: "It's justice. I just want to be with her now. She has been so frightened because she had no idea what would happen." Her son, Darren, aged 18, added: "It put a great strain on the

family and we are just pleased it is all over."

Mrs Clugstone, a widow from Paddington, west London, admitted killing Steven Coppen in October last year after he took her to his flat and raped her. She said she was frightened about what Coppen would do next and plunged a penknife into him.

Judge Hazan told the jury: "The position in this case is that there is no real evidence to contradict the defendant's account of the matter, which is that she was defending herself. To conclude that she killed as an act of revenge would be to act on surmise and speculation."

"She described him as a wild man, that she did not mean to kill him and only wanted to get away from him. Self-defence is lawful when it is necessary to use force not only to resist an attack levelled against you but also a threatened attack and where the amount of force used is reasonable."

"The law is that if the defendant does no more than what she instinctively thinks is necessary, you should regard that as very strong evidence that the amount of force was reasonable."

Judge Hazan said Coppen had been described as a "little upstart", a man who had been taking drugs and drink and had previous convictions involving violence.

The judge added: "He treated her like an animal, as an object for the gratification of his perverted sexual lusts. One is driven inevitably to the conclusion that this lady was subjected to the most appalling sexual abuse, humiliation and degradation."

"Her case has merit and consistency and there is no evidence here upon which you could be confident that self-defence was not made out."

Judge Hazan said the police were not at fault for bringing the charges of murder and manslaughter against Mrs Clugstone, which she had denied.

"I do not want it thought that my decision is in any way a criticism of the decision to arrest and charge her, still less any criticism of the director who decided to prosecute."

"I have no doubt he took into account all the relevant information, including a public policy consideration, which might, in some circumstances, require that the matter be brought to court."

"Having said that, one unfortunate result is that I have before me a psychiatric report on this lady which is to the effect that she had, previous to the incident, undergone an operation for cancer, and has been suffering extreme stress as a result of her horrific experience."

Closure blamed on sweat shop image



Mr Terry Inglesant, manager of the Taylor Merry-made clothing factory in Northampton, with some of his workforce (Photograph: Graham Wood).

By Craig Seton

Low wages and the poor image of the "rag trade" as a sweat shop industry were blamed yesterday for the decision to close a clothing factory because it cannot recruit more workers in a town with 7,800 people unemployed.

More than 80 people, mainly women, will lose their jobs next month when Taylor Merry-made, of Northampton, shuts because of its inability to expand. It received only three inquiries after a seven-week campaign to recruit at least 40 workers to train as sewing machinists.

Yesterday, some of the long-serving workers at the factory blamed unemployed young people in the town for not coming forward to take the jobs and save the plant from closure.

But they conceded that the £73-a-week basic wage was too

unattractive to encourage youngsters to leave the unemployment queue in a town where jobs in shops and offices can pay more than £100 a week.

Taylor Merry-made, which has four other factories in the country, was taken over by J & J Fashions last May. The new owners said that the loss-making Northampton factory had full order books for making shirts and dresses for companies such as Marks & Spencer and British Home Stores, but needed to expand to survive.

J & J Fashions denied that the closure had anything to do with the takeover or that it was an asset-stripping operation to acquire Taylor Merry-made's contracts. Intense world competition meant that the factory had to become more productive.

Mr Terry Inglesant, aged 38,

who became manager at Northampton only eight weeks ago, yesterday described how he had 5,000 leaflets sent to houses in the King's Heath area where the factory is based in an attempt to recruit trainees. "It was a saturation blitz to get people that we were prepared to train up. We have been to a private recruitment agency, we have advertised in the local paper, at the Jobcentre and approached the Manpower Services Commission, but in all we got three replies and recruited only one worker."

He conceded that it could take at least a year before trainees were experienced enough to earn average wages of £45 a week on piece work at the factory, where the fastest women earn up to £125 a week. "The clothing industry is female-oriented and there is a stigma about it. It has an image as a sweat shop industry where people are paid very little to slave over a machine."

Mrs Dorothy Young, aged 51, a sewing machinist there for five years, said: "I think it is a good secure job but some machinists have left to go to other similar jobs offering more money."

Unemployment in Northampton is 7.2 per cent, well below the national average, and is falling rapidly.

Mr Alan Gordon-Smith, manager of the town's Jobcentre, said he did not blame the town's unemployed for the factory's predicament. "It is not because they are deliberately unemployed, it is because they think there is going to be something better."

Mr Alwyn Hargreaves, Conservative leader of Northampton borough council, said it was an ebullient town and jobs in clothing factories were not attractive.

Portfolio Gold - The taste of success beckons

Two winners share the Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 and one plans to spend some of his windfall on a celebration dinner.

Mr Douglas Young, aged 70, of Willow Mead Close, Ealing, west London, said: "This is quite nice and as there is just my wife and myself I think we will probably go out for a special dinner."

"The rest of the money I will put into my investments."

The retired engineer who worked overseas for 30 years said he is a regular reader of *The Times*.

He had been playing the competition since it started. Sharing the prize is Mr Robert Dann, of Browns Road, Sandbanks, Dorset.

Any reader wishing to play Portfolio Gold can obtain a card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

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BB1 6AJ.

Ryan planned sexual attack on first victim, say police

By Howard Foster

Michael Ryan, the Hungerford mass murderer, may have planned a sexual attack on his first victim and shot her only when she ran away, police said yesterday.

Ryan forced Mrs Susan Godfrey to leave her two young children in her car and walk at gunpoint into a forest with a ground sheet. When she realized his intention and tried to run away, he shot her 10 times in the back. She collapsed through a wire fence and he fired three more shots into her body.

Wiltshire detectives described her death yesterday after an inquest jury at Swindon returned a verdict of unlawful killing on Mrs Godfrey, aged 35, a former nurse, of Clayhill Road, Burghfield, Berkshire.

Det Chief Insp Rodney Legg said the fact that Mrs Godfrey

was led into the forest with the groundsheet "indicates to us that there might have been a sexual motive of some description."

"It was a completely and utterly callous murder. Mrs Godfrey must have realized the situation she was in and had the sense to walk away from her children, so she acted in a calm manner to protect her children from a man threatening them with a gun."

"As a detective you look for a motive. There was a threatening with a gun, the groundsheet was spread on the ground, if he wanted to shoot her, why didn't he do it there and then?"

Mrs Myra Rose, aged 75, from Bournechurch, had earlier told the jury that she was in Savernake Forest, Wiltshire, when Mrs Godfrey's children, Hannah, aged four,

and James, aged two, came walking hand in hand towards her.

Hannah told her: "We've been looking for you. We've come to find you."

She said that she and James had gone to sleep in the car but that a man in black had shot their mother. "She said: 'I'm going home to find my father.' Mrs Rose said: "They were very self-contained."

Sergeant John Coppen said he found Mrs Godfrey's body 75 yards from her car. The blue tarpaulin groundsheet was spread on the ground 10 yards away and there were scuff marks between the body and the groundsheet.

The weapon which killed Mrs Godfrey, a 9mm Beretta pistol that Ryan used to kill himself later that day, was produced by Mr Thomas Warlow, a ballistics expert. He cocked and fired the unloaded gun twice in court before Mrs Godfrey's husband, Brian.

Ryan's application for a firearms certificate was also put before the court, showing that he legally held the Beretta, a .22 pistol, a .32 pistol, an M1 carbine, a Kalashnikov rifle and several rounds of ammunition.

Mr John Elgar, the coroner, who called the murder "a vile, vicious and needless attack", said banning specific weapons was not the only answer. "A review of the need to own policy is required. Very detailed guidelines should be issued to chief constables as to the need to own a particular weapon and more especially the need to own more than one weapon."

"In the security world we have the need to know. In the firearms world we should have the need to own."

Toy versions of the Kalashnikov rifle used by Ryan were withdrawn from Woolworths' stores yesterday after Mr Geoffrey Dickens MP said their sale was "grossly insensitive".

Aids testing without consent banned

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A decision by the British Medical Association allowing doctors to test patients for Aids infection without consent has been blocked by the association's leadership.

The BMA's council said yesterday that any doctor who deliberately concealed an intention to carry out such a test "would do so at his peril".

The council acted after being given legal advice that doctors risked criminal and civil proceedings if they carried

out the tests without the explicit permission of their patients.

The council said it would be undesirable to implement the resolution passed at the association's annual representative meeting in Bristol.

The resolution said that testing for traces of Aids infection should be at the discretion of doctors and should not necessarily require patients' consent.

The decision was in conflict

with government guidelines and provoked strong criticism. Specialists treating Aids patients said it could have a disastrous effect in driving underground those at risk of the disease.

Dr John Marks, chairman of the BMA council, said yesterday that doctors could proceed without the patient's consent only in a situation of great emergency.

A government report says that there could be serious opposition to community care

for Aids sufferers, and even close relatives may shun victims of the disease (Our Science Correspondent writes).

Although the report, commissioned by the Department of Health, shows that there have been significant positive changes in public attitudes about Aids, more people may now believe that sufferers "only have themselves to blame".

Aids: A Human Response to the Public Education Campaign (Stationery Office: £10.95).

Children talk bluntly about mother's death

The husband of Ryan's first victim described yesterday how his family was coping with his wife's death.

Mr Brian Godfrey, aged 40, a computer project controller, said that soon after his wife died he discovered a calendar in their home upon which she had mapped out summer activities for their two children.

"It was very hard but we decided to carry out what she had planned and within a day or two we had the kids swimming and trampolining," Mr Godfrey told a press conference. "It wasn't easy but we just followed Sue's schedule."

Mr Godfrey said he thought his wife had coped extremely well with Ryan and the safety of the children.

"As far as I can see she got the children into the car and said: 'I'll be back in a minute' and did her best not to upset them and just went with the guy and we all know what happened then."

He said that he tried not to be too optimistic about the effect of the killing on his children. "They obviously miss their mother a lot but they seem to be much more blunt about it than we can be. There has been very little in the way of tears. But I was surprised two days ago when James fell over and asked for mummy."

"We had a big crying session and I told them she would not be coming back. Hannah was being very protective to James. She told the little boy that she was sorry that she had shot mummy but she couldn't come back even if she wanted to."

Mr Godfrey said he would probably feel very bitter about his wife's death if Ryan were still alive. "But as he isn't it is very difficult to feel anything about him. He's gone. We will never find out why he did it. Sue was in the wrong place at the wrong time. That's just about all you can say about the horrible incident."

Which? celebrations

Protecting the consumer for 30 years

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

A magazine that started life in a converted east London garage with its finances boosted by a collection among the staff today celebrates its thirtieth anniversary as the undisputed champion of the hapless consumer.

The first edition of the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* had a print order of just 10,000.

Alongside tests on kettles - half of which had serious defects - sunglasses, scouring powders and painkillers, a leading article stated firmly: "Our object is not to uncover scandals but to get at the truth. Where we find something bad, we shall say so; but we shall hope more frequently to find something good."

Today the "buyers' Bible" caters for 900,000 subscribers and applies its rigorously scientific methods of consumer testing to anything from television sets to insurance policies, back pain and estate agents.

By Mark Ellis

Random checks on garages are called for today after a survey by the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* found that not one out of 28 carried out a car service properly.

Only five garages did a reasonable service, the rest in the sample missed tests of potentially dangerous parts such as brakes, lights and tyres. The report names the garages surveyed in Barnsley, Birmingham, Croydon, Edinburgh, Gwent, Liverpool and Taunton, which included franchised dealers and members of the Motor Agents' Association and the Scottish Motor Trade Association.

Garage servicing has been surveyed six

times since 1970 by *Which?* and out of 241 services only 47 were fair to good. The magazine is urging the Government, Office of Fair Trading and car manufacturers and trade associations to begin random, anonymous checks to restore motorists' confidence.

Helped by trading standards officers, the magazine booked ordinary cars into garages for a major service after an independent engineer inspected the cars and discreetly marked parts such as spark plugs, air and oil filters to find out if they were replaced.

Gearbox oil was neglected in about half the services as were slack alternator belts, flat spare tyres, battery terminals, door locks and hinges and blown number plate bulbs.

Mr David Watts, editor of *Which?*, said last night: "What we have achieved over the past 30 years is a radical improvement in the standard of goods and services that consumers get."

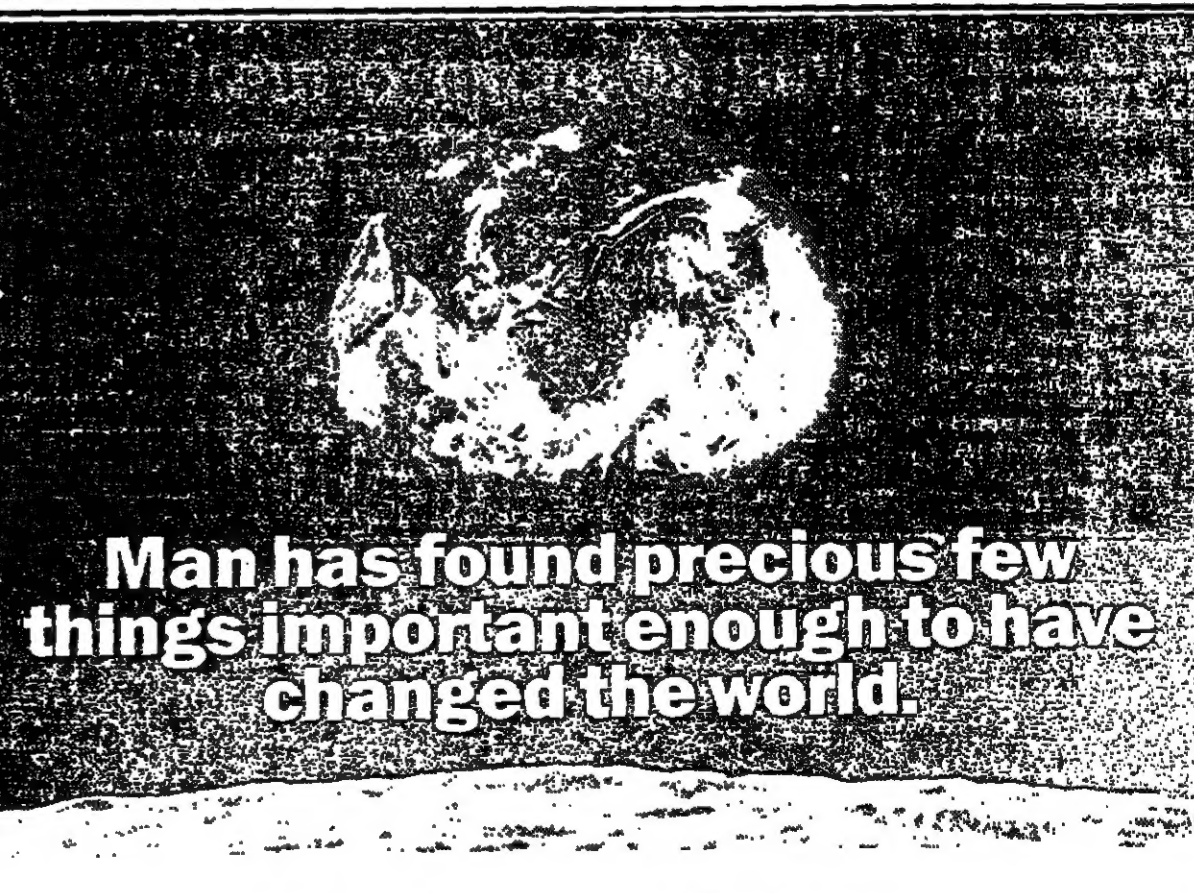
From *Which?* issue 1, Autumn 1957

Electric Kettles: Recommended - GEC £5 0s 7d, Swan £3 10s 3d.

Scouring Powders: Mirror "best all round"; Vim "slightly harsh"; Ajax "rather

harsher"; Chemico "well-designed tin"; Gumption "equal of Chemico".

Two British Cars (Swedish tests) Austin A35 De Luxe (inc ashtrays, swivelling windows) £583 19s 6d; extras - heater £20 16s 3d. "A well-built man who is to retain his dignity while getting in must think first and act afterwards." Standard Ten £668 17s (inc oil extras - windscreen spray (inc fitting) £1 17s 6d. "The slight wander can cause some worry."



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Take the news in this week's issue, for example...

Hal is No Longer a Halfwit. Virtually everyday, a new development in the computer scene is announced in the press. But did you know that - thanks to new developments in optical technology -

scientists are convinced they can finally create a computer that precisely 'mimics' the human brain. It will make decisions and judgements... work with partial information (just like the rest of us poor mortals)... and (you guessed it) - make mistakes!

The 100% Better 'Half'. Anyone worth his Waddington's knows that beer is made of yeast. But you might not have heard that, in years to come, we'll all be drinking a brew made by genetic engineers. (Move over, Marmite.) Well, almost... because they've come up with a new DNA technology that speeds up yeast production... making a faster pint. By half.

Taking to New Aviation Markets. In 10 years time you could be departing for Europe in a revolutionary new aircraft: a 'tiltrotor' that takes off as a helicopter, then turns into a fixed-wing aircraft. Its big advantage is that it can take off and land in confined spaces... which means that, instead of traffic-jamming it all the way to Heathrow or Gatwick, you'll be able to depart from Docklands.

There's even more to discover in this week's issue of *New Scientist*. So pick up a copy at your newsagent today.

It will tell you some startling things about tomorrow.



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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Public control for road and rail

The conference overwhelmingly endorsed a composite motion repeating the party's support for an integrated transport system involving public control of all forms of public transport "in the interests of the travelling public, industry in general and transport workers".

The debate was marked by the speech of Mr. Roy Hattersley, who is to retire in three weeks' time.

He received a standing ovation at the end of his speech. He told delegates: "This is the last time I will speak on behalf of my union from this rostrum. But I will in my retirement continue in the Labour Party to fight day and night for a sane, disciplined transport system."

The motion was proposed by Mr. Jimmy Knapp, general secretary, National Union of Railwaysmen. He maintained that there was no evidence in the Department of Transport to suggest Government plan to close 41 rural railway branch lines.

"We should be demanding that that secret list be made public so that people can know what is happening behind closed doors," he said to applause.

There was great public support for the railways, he said. The inquiry into the proposed closure of the Carlisle to Settle line had taken longer than that into the Sizewell B power station. That was the strength of public opinion.

Tenant move condemned

Westminster City Council's plan to transfer needy tenants to portable homes in Barking in order to modernize and sell off nearly 10,000 flats was the most naked form yet of Mrs Thatcher's inner-city strategy in action, Mr. Bryan Gould said last night (Our Political Staff writes).

The shadow Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who is MP for Barking, accused the Conservative-controlled council of not caring for the plight of the tenants but only about "tarting up" the properties to make way for an influx of possible Conservative voters.

Support for assembly

Unanimous support was given in a debate on Tuesday to a plea for an elected legislative assembly with revenue-raising powers for Scotland after the move, Miss Johanna Lamont, Glasgow, Hillhead, said that the general election had shown that it was what most of the Scottish people wanted.

Mr. Donald Dewar, chief opposition spokesman on Scotland, said a directly elected assembly was not the only solution to Scotland's problems, but change was necessary to make it harder for the authoritarian style of the present Government to rule again.

Jobs inquiry refused

A motion calling for a report into employment discrimination against Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland was rejected on Tuesday by 3,370,000 votes to 2,435,000 after Mr. Gordon Colling, for the NEC, said that the NEC could not commit party resources to such a huge task.

A motion seeking renegotiation or scrapping of the Anglo-Irish agreement was also rejected, without a card vote. Mr. Colling said that the people of Ireland supported the agreement and that to renounce it would be a supremely arrogant step.

Business today

Mr. Tam Dalyell, MP, who lost his seat in this week's NEC elections will make his last speech on its behalf, winding up a debate today on the Peter Wright book, *Spycatcher*. Debates are also expected on trade unions and employment rights, the environment, housing, local government, the poll tax and inner cities, defence, Central America, Southern Africa, and Iran and Iraq.

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Delegates throw out move to reverse sell-offs

The Labour Party Conference in Brighton yesterday voted down a motion rejecting privatization and demanding the renationalization of all privatized companies.

The move was said to be all shares from privatized companies should be reclaimed by a future Labour Government at original prices.

At first, the chairman, Mr. Syd Tierney, declared that the motion had been carried on a show of hands. A card vote was demanded, however, and the motion was rejected by 3,869,000 to 2,397,000. The national executive committee had opposed the motion on the ground that the issue was largely taken up by the NEC document on the review of policy, *Moving Ahead*, which was approved by the conference on Monday.

A second motion, reaffirming belief in social ownership but calling for a review of policy and presentation of a statement on the extension of social ownership at next year's conference, was carried on a show of hands.

Mr. Alan Tuffin, Union of Communication Workers, proposed the motion that was subsequently carried. It reaffirmed the Labour Party's belief in the fundamental importance of the principle of social ownership and its opposition to the sale of public assets. But it went on to express concern that this policy had not convinced the electorate that they would get greater control over their own lives.

The motion instructed the NEC to review the policy and recommend to next year's conference a statement on the extension of social ownership. "I want to make it clear that my union has expressly said it does not condone the sale of public assets that this Government has undertaken," he said. "And our motion makes it clear we continue to oppose privatization."

"But what the motion goes on to say is that despite this opposition these sales have proved popular with the ordinary men and women paying their £100 or £200 and it is no good just rubbishing the fact that has all taken place."

Those who had bought shares and kept them were not going to be impressed by the Labour Party's argument that when back in power it would buy them all back at the original price. "That policy stood a chance at the last election, but we did not win the last election," he said. "Frankly, it is now ludicrous to imagine that in another four years' time these industries could be brought back into the public sector at the old price."

"Such a policy is not only

unconvincing, it will be seen by those nine million shareholders as a totally unacceptable policy and will get a big 'no' from them when we face the electorate."

Such a policy would be unimaginative and unpopular. The party had to be progressive enough to recognize that "By the time we come into power in 1991, we will not want to spend something like £15,000 million at today's prices getting these industries back. We are going to have bigger priorities such as jobs, the National Health Service and the question of low pay," he said.

Mr. Alan Taylor, Co-operative Retail Society, seconding the UCU motion, said that it was time to give people control as workers, consumers and users of services. Let them make mistakes and learn from those mistakes, he said.

Mr. Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, proposing the motion that was later defeated by card vote, told the conference: "We are concerned about accountability. We are concerned about industrial democracy. But I put it to you,

"There is a whole fruitful area out there with fresh new ideas. Do not accept that capitalism is sold out and clapped out."

There was much to do if the party was to have the courage and confidence to prepare a socialist programme true to its principles that would work in government and that would secure the popular appeal that would win the next election.

Mr. Eric Hammond, general secretary, EETPU, said that the sale of the electricity industry would inevitably lead to higher prices, probably 15 per cent higher, as the Government sought to make the sale more attractive.

If privatization of the industry went ahead the power workers would combat the Government and make it think again.

Mr. Ken Carr, for the NEC, said that well over two million shareholders in British Gas and British Telecom had already sold their shares. Well over half of the shares bought by individuals in Rolls-Royce were sold within a day, mostly to the Japanese.

"That is not wider share ownership. That is speculation of the kind that is handing over British industry to foreign investors and multinational companies."

He recommended that the UCU motion should be accepted and that the NUM motion opposed, since the movers had declined to remit it.

If the electricity industry were sold off for half its real value, it would mean the loss of 100,000 jobs.

Mr. Brian Gould, shadow Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said that any review of party policy on share ownership should be based on the principle of accountability and social responsibility.

But they ought not to fall into the Thatcherite trap of believing that the only argument to consider was that between the public and private sector. "Why not have our own ideas and take the battle to our opponents, invade the territory of the private sector on the principle of social ownership? That is what we could do if we have the courage to fight for it."

"Instead of scattering shares around like confetti, why not use shares as one instrument, just one, in order to hand real power to working people?"

He said that he was talking about employees' share ownership. His intention had always been to give working people a share in the industry in which they worked and thus a real say in the decisions that affected their working lives.

That was not social revisionism. It had been shown to work by many socialist countries throughout the world.

"There is a whole fruitful area out there with fresh new ideas. Do not accept that capitalism is sold out and clapped out."

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Mr Roy Hattersley: "Tories want to discriminate among pupils by wealth, status and race".

Party cutting 45 jobs in tough economy drive

By Philip Webster and Nicholas Wood

The Labour Party faced up to its financial crisis yesterday and approved a tough economy package to cut 45 posts and close its newspaper from November.

After an acrimonious debate behind closed doors the Labour conference in Brighton rejected a last-ditch appeal led by Mr. Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to delay a decision over *Labour Weekly*.

Mr. Dennis Skinner, the left-wing member of the national executive, said that Labour had adopted the tactics of the Tories.

The conference backed the attempt by Mr. Larry Whitty, the general secretary, to cut £1 million from the party's overdraft after he told them in a sombre speech that, after facing the political facts this week, they now had to face the financial ones.

He told the conference that if it did not tackle the overdraft - believed to be heading towards £2 million at the end of next

year - it would be faced with even greater difficulties.

The conference accepted a financial report from Mr. Whitty that said: "1988 is the year in which we must get our finances right so that no further financial crisis is encountered in the remaining three years to a general election."

Mr. Whitty has until November 1 to complete the process of making the necessary economies. He has promised to try to achieve the cuts by voluntary means, through retraining, redeployment and early retirement. But he has not withdrawn the threat of compulsory redundancies.

The vote on closing *Labour Weekly*, which its staff might refuse to accept as final, was 3,594,000 to 2,556,000.

It was close because Mr. Todd pleaded with the conference not to take a final decision pending negotiations. When that was not accepted he cast his union's one and a quarter million votes against closure.

Mr. Chris McLaughlin, the National Union of Journalists negotiator on the paper, said: "Nothing has been decided irrevocably by today's vote. We are encouraged by the narrowness of the majority and we hope that will be taken into consideration in the negotiations Larry Whitty has committed himself to. He has indicated he is prepared to have the whole principle of closure on the table."

But Mr. Whitty flatly rejected this interpretation.

By almost five million votes the conference confirmed the expulsion from Labour of Miss Felicity Dowling, the prominent Liverpool Militant.

Mr. Whitty said afterwards: "It was the largest ever vote to take action to expel a member of Militant. That is significant. People who were prepared to be tolerant are now prepared to support the NEC in taking action."

CANDIDATES

Women accuse officials of trying to evade policy

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Labour women accused party officials yesterday of attempting to evade the party's policy of including at least one woman on every short list of parliamentary candidates.

However, they lost decisively a card vote to make the national executive committee look again at the loophole. The rules state that a woman need not be on the list if there is only one candidate.

Miss Josie Irwin, of Hornsey and Wood Green, complained that the NEC's decision was grossly unfair after conference delegates refused to have it reconsidered by 5,475,000 votes to 665,000.

In a week when they saw their representation on the NEC reduced, they also complained when the women's organization debate was cut to 40 minutes because the earlier private session had lasted all morning. The conference organizers realized that they faced a rebellion if they scrapped the whole debate, or rescheduled it to the end of the week.

The conference unanimously backed a resolution instructing the NEC to launch national and local strategies to campaign with and for women over the next five years. The resolution and speakers

had strong words for party leaders for not giving women's issues a higher profile during the election campaign.

"Labour's public face often reinforces the image of a party of men working for men," the resolution stated. "Many trade unions and Labour Party branches continue to use facilities which exclude women from full membership."

Miss Maria Fyfe, the newly-elected MP for Glasgow, Maryhill, pointed out she was the only woman out of 50 Labour MPs in Scotland. In total, Labour has 21 of the 41 women MPs.



Mr Ken Livingstone relaxing in Brighton before his first NEC meeting yesterday

Press ownership rules considered

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Limits on the number of newspapers an individual or company can own are under discussion by the Labour Party as it develops a policy on the media.

Ideas are being considered for a policy on the concentration of the ownership of newspapers which the party's spokesman on the arts and media described yesterday as a threat to democracy.

Mr. Mark Fisher, the party spokesman, said that unless the party developed a policy it would discover in 10 years that Mr. Rupert Murdoch's company or a similar multinational owned "our culture and all the means of expression and communication and debate".

He pointed out that the party was considering limiting the number of titles or the amount of newspaper circulation that any individual could own.

Mr. Fisher told a conference meeting of the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom at Brighton, at which attacks were made on Mr. Murdoch's world-wide media empire, that "we have four years of Mr. Thatcher who, in conjunction with Mr. Murdoch,

will be setting the agenda and the terms of reference for debate".

He accused the Government of encouraging a free market in the press, publishing, and retailing while either directly or indirectly interfering much more on matters of editorial freedom in broadcasting.

"The effect of that has been a major concentration of ownership presenting a threat to democracy. Mr. Murdoch's world-wide empire is enormous." He added that, while Mr. Murdoch was an extremely dangerous man, he was also a good businessman and that the things he was going into would be enormously profitable.

A scathing attack was made on the *Daily Star* yesterday by its chief leader writer, who said that it had been turned into a "daily soft porn magazine".

The paper, launched nine years ago, had been "hijacked" three weeks ago with the appointment of a new editor and since then the journalists had twice voted unanimously to condemn "this piece of semi-porn". Mr. David Buchanan told the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom meeting,

This is the quietest, the most docile Labour conference within memory. That is not disputed by anybody at Brighton this week. But there are two rival interpretations of what has been happening here.

One is that the party has not only been winded by electoral defeat. It has been brought to its senses. The hard left has been isolated because the rest of the party has at last appreciated the damage that the extremists have done to Labour's reputation.

Moderate trade unionists have finally determined to assert themselves because they have realised that otherwise there will never be another Labour government in their time.

There has been quite a bit of evidence to support this analysis over the past few days. The hard left have been nothing like so prominent nor so influential as in previous conferences.

There is also a widespread recognition that the outside world has changed and that the party had better come to terms with what voters want today. This new realism is the common coinage of conversation in Brighton.

Yet it nonetheless seems to me that there is more to be

said for the rival interpretation. This does not deny that the mood is different from any previous conference, nor that electoral defeat has had a salutary effect on Labour thinking. But it is still too soon to be sure how deep the change goes.

The new thinking has been expressed this week in general propositions. For the moment that is not only understandable, but wise. It would have been ridiculous to respond to electoral humiliation by immediately producing a succession of alternative policies. "What do these people believe in?" the voters would then have been asking.

But general propositions are less controversial than substantive policies. Who could object to the idea of re-examining policy? Who would wish, especially in what purports to be a radical party, to go into battle under the banner *Down with Fresh Thinking*?

The more difficult stage will come later. A broad statement of basic policy, at least on domestic affairs, is expected next year. The following year there will be more detailed statements on specific policies. Labour's new thoughts on defence may be revealed then or later, depending on outside developments.

COMMENTARY

Geoffrey Smith

The critical conference may be next year, but more probably in 1989. Then the pleasing notion of new ideas may, and certainly should, take the form of proposals that challenge some vested interests and traditional assumptions.

It will not be necessary even then for Labour to publish a series of detailed commitments across the whole range of policy. Opposition parties which go in for too much detail offer hostages to their opponents and to fortune.

But Labour will need to say enough to get off a number of uncomfortable hooks. The most obvious is the non-nuclear defence strategy. That is not only because defence is such a critical issue in the eyes of the electorate. It is also because Labour defence policy is regarded by many voters as the touchstone of the party's sense of responsibility.

The other books are taxation, public ownership, trade union legislation and possibly housing. On each of these issues the country will need to be convinced that there has been fresh Labour thinking.

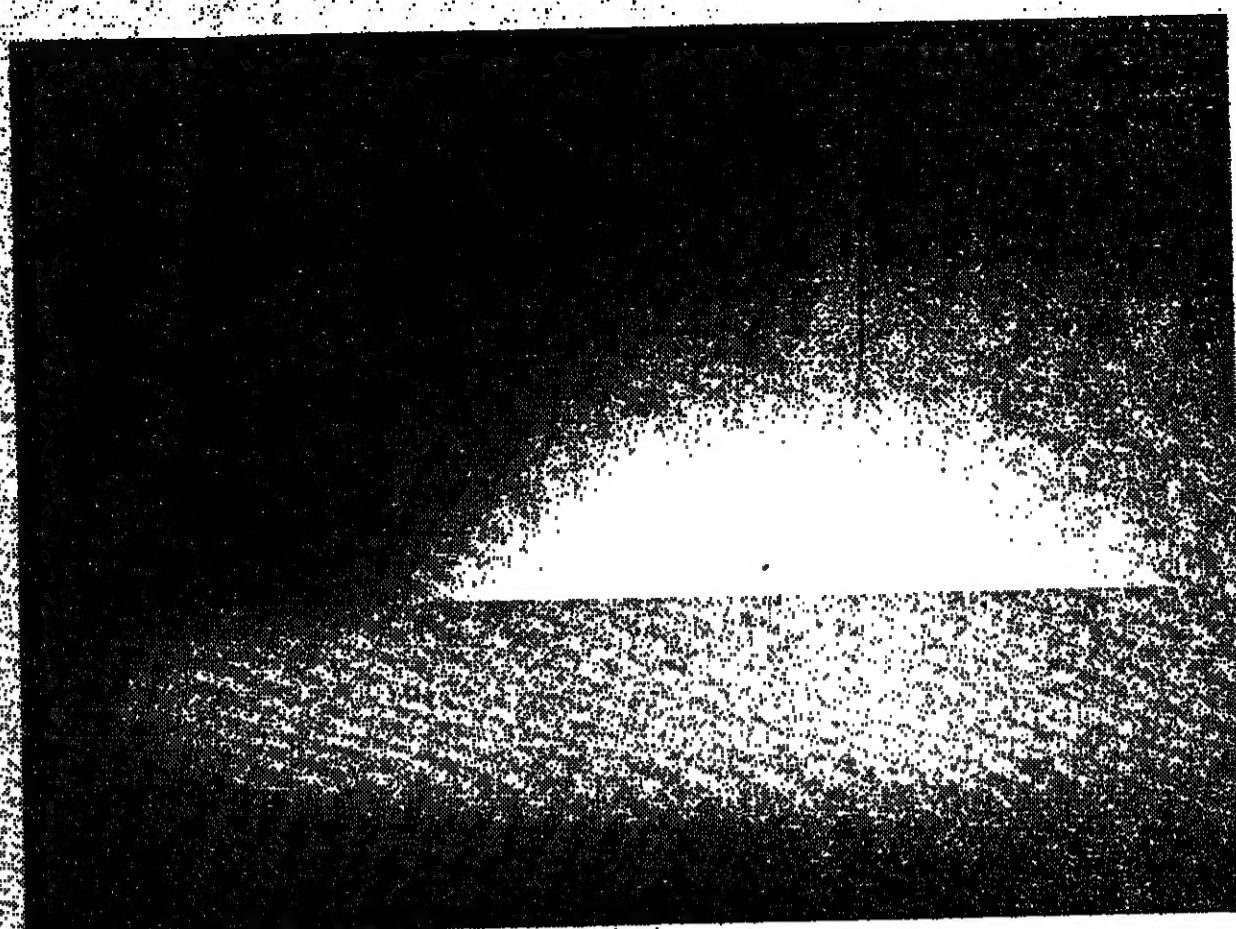
But on each of these the idea of new ideas may be more comfortable for the party than the reality. Will the trade unions be prepared, for example, to accept the necessity of secret ballots before strikes?

There are two particular hazards facing the Labour leadership over the next few years. One is that it may encounter too much resistance to bold new policies on specific issues. The other is that it may become too afraid of such resistance to produce policies that are bold enough.

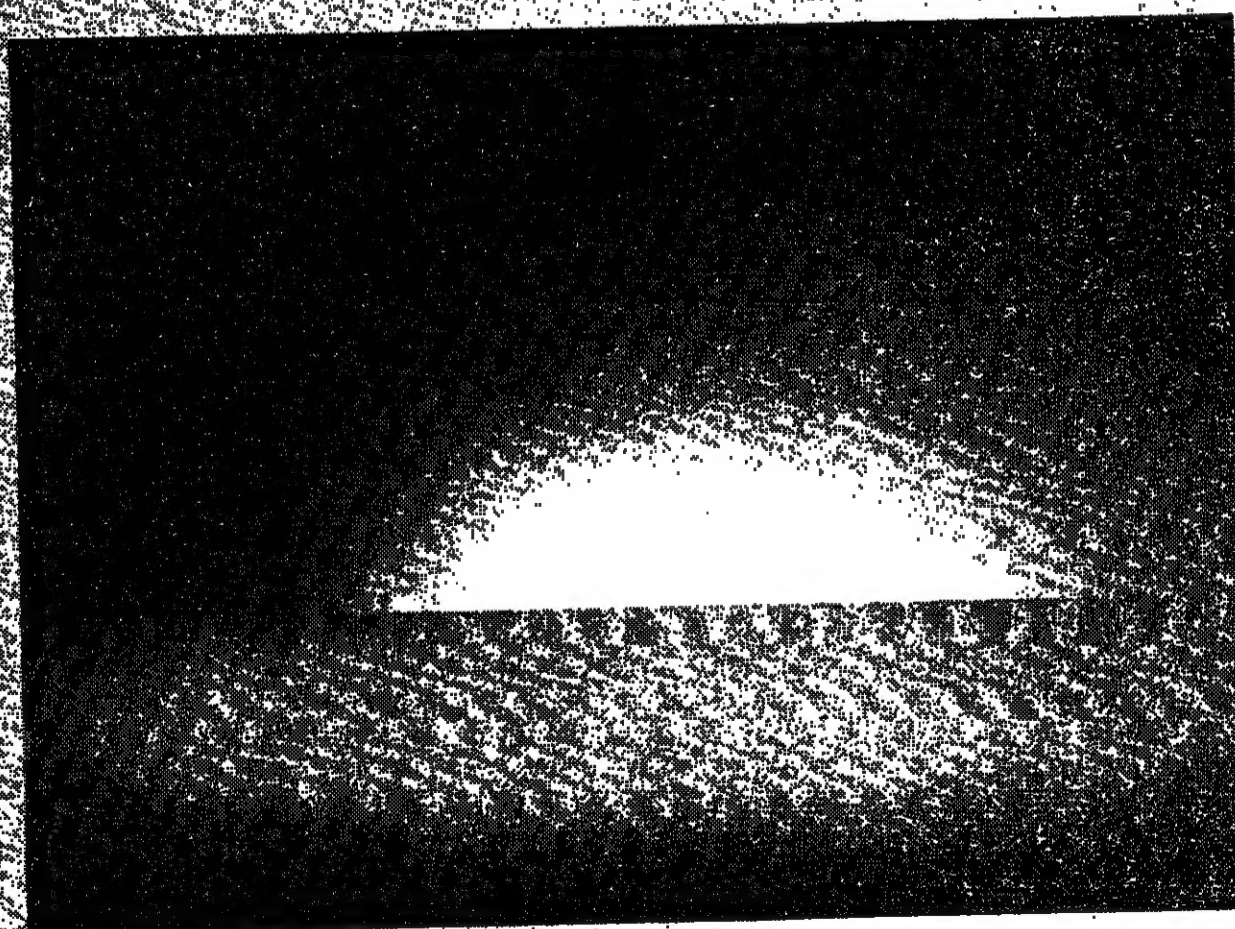
Only when there has been a change to the fruits of the new thinking to a future conference will we know whether the more realistic tone this year indicates a change of heart or merely a temporary change of expression.

Conference reports by Robert Morgan, John Winder, Anthony Hodges and Peter Mulligan

By Nicholas Wood
and Peter Medley



THEY'LL BE HERE ON 1ST OCTOBER 2001.



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Government refuses to intervene as traders fight for shops A docklands dream begins to turn sour

By Ian Smith

A spectacular inner city success story within sight of an innovative Liverpool docklands business park and opened yesterday by Mr David Trippier, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, is turning sour.

Mr Trippier, on a flying visit to Liverpool, refused to become involved in a dispute which is threatening the future of the much praised Albert Dock scheme.

Once an eyesore with acres of abandoned, decaying warehouses lapped by polluted Mersey water, Albert Dock is a showpiece example of inner city redevelopment. Government grants of £31 million and a further £7 million of foreign investment has produced a bustling shopping mall with riverside restaurants and a maritime museum.

Next spring will see the opening of the museum housing a Tate Gallery collection and more shops.

But the future of Albert Dock is in jeopardy. As Mr Trippier was opening the £6 million Brunswick Business Park, disillusioned Albert Dock traders just a few hundred yards away were preparing for a confrontation with their landlords over colossal rent and service charges which 60 small shopkeepers fear will drive them out of business.

Before he left Liverpool, Mr Trippier made it clear the Government would not interfere.

"After being cushioned by subsidized rates to encourage them to establish shops within the Albert Dock complex, it is now time for traders to venture out into the real world", he said.

"It must have come as an incredible cultural shock to be faced with unsubsidized



Mr Anthony O'Leary (left) and his partner, Mr Frank Green, who may lose their art shop

charges but the Government cannot and will not interfere in a normal commercial transaction.

"The traders should not be shocked by the increases

which were bound to come and as for their being driven out of business, it is a threat I have heard millions of times before."

Appalled by unexpected

backdated service charges, averaging £3,750 and fearful of expected 100 per cent rent increases, the Albert Dock Tenants' Association is prepared to go to court to settle

Minister's praise for Ikea role

Lord Young of Grafton yesterday paid tribute to the Labour-controlled Inner London Education Authority by holding up one of its colleges, the South Bank polytechnic, as the model for future links between education and business (Our Public Administration Correspondent writes).

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, opening the second phase of the South Bank Technopark, a suite of offices for high-technology companies in Southwark, south London, financed by the Prudential Corporation, said the success of such inner city developments depended on close collaboration between academics and entrepreneurs.

He praised the way the South Bank polytechnic's libraries and computers had been put at the disposal of firms moving into the Technopark.

He said that science parks, bringing together researchers and businessmen, represented a vital strand in British economic regeneration.

The technopark, near Elephant and Castle, is a £6.5 million scheme to provide space for new, high-technology companies. Its foundation has been assisted by grants from the Sainsbury Charitable Trust.

the dispute and safeguard the dock's future.

The traders claim the Albert Dock Company, a subsidiary of Arrowcroft Investments, of Mayfair, is breaching the ten-

ancy agreement with its backdated service charge demands. Mr David Hutchinson, the tenants' association secretary, said that if the traders lost their case, many would have to leave the development.

As Mr Trippier left the city, traders' association representatives met Albert Dock Company officials in an attempt to settle the dispute.

One trader, Mr Anthony O'Leary, has clashed with his landlord, refusing to sign a new lease agreement until negotiations between the tenants' association and company end the dispute.

The Albert Dock Company is seeking repossession of the art shop at Liverpool County Court next Monday. Mr O'Leary opened the shop in 1984 in partnership with the Liverpool artist, Mr Frank Green.

Mr O'Leary, who invested his savings in his shop, said: "We went full-out to support government attempts to bring this city alive again and this is the result. All of us want to see neglect being turned into success and it looked as if Albert Dock would become everything we had dreamed of. Sadly that dream is turning into a financial nightmare."

Among Mr Trippier's audience at the Brunswick Business Park was Mr Stan Brownell who retreated from Albert Dock and moved his Dial a Pizza business back to Brunswick Park after being presented with a £3,000 backdated service charge bill.

The Albert Dock Company denied the proposed increases had come as a shock to tenants. They had been told in advance and if they had difficulty paying, an arrangement for payments by instalment could be reached.

Minister urged to make NHS competitive

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Health service hospitals should be allowed to make a profit from pay beds and the sale of services to the public and the private sector, according to a report published today by the Conservative think tank.

The Centre for Policy Studies urges Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, to change the law so that hospitals can profit from their activities. It also calls for increased competition throughout the health service by an extension of competitive tendering to clinical support services such as radiology, pathology and psychiatric services.

"The NHS needs to dismiss the idea that all hospitals and health authorities must be able to provide all facilities themselves", the report says. Competition with the private sector would drive out inefficiency and give patients faster and better health care for their money.

The centre accuses Mr Moore of moving too gingerly because of health service pressure groups and says that as he is a convinced believer in the market place and in competition, "the time has come for him to take his courage in both hands and press hard for a competitive approach".

The report, by Mr John Peet, a former treasury principal responsible for health service finance, also calls for changes in family doctor contracts so that doctors are encouraged to provide preventive services such as X-rays, cervical cytology, breast cancer screening and minor operations.

Competition could be extended to primary care services by letting family practitioner committees award fixed-term franchises to doctors, dentists and pharmacists, who would be monitored for customer satisfaction, level of service offered and factors such as hospital referral rate or quantity of drugs prescribed.

Mr Peet supports moves by the Department of Health and Social Security to give GPs more information about hospital waiting lists, and suggests that they should also be told the cost of treatments and the success rates of different hospitals. It would then be possible to set up an internal

market, whereby hospitals could buy and sell services from each other.

The report also recommends that managers should be able to enter into long term contracts with the private sector.

It calls for more local flexibility in employing staff on short term contracts and says that redundancy costs should be taken out of cost comparisons for services put to competitive tender. In addition, to ensure fair competition, the private sector should be asked to meet a proper share of the costs of training and educating staff.

Cook-chill method wins approval

A health service report on the cook-chill method of supplying hospital meals has concluded that it is "perfectly safe and nutritionally good".

The report, commissioned by the Yorkshire Regional Health Authority, was prepared by regional and national experts in microbiology, nutrition and environmental health after criticism of the system by Professor Richard Lacey, chairman of a Wakefield Health Authority committee on infection control.

He said that the method, whereby food is cooked at a central kitchen, chilled, and then dispatched to hospitals where it is reheated, was "microbiologically unsound and nutritionally unsafe".

After an outbreak of food poisoning at the Stanley Road hospital in 1984, when 19 people died and 450 patients and staff became ill, Wakefield planned to introduce a cook-chill system in place of the traditional method of cooking meals on the premises, but postponed its introduction because of Professor Lacey's criticism.

Yesterday the regional health authority said that there was "no evidence whatsoever" that the cook-chill system was inherently more dangerous than traditional catering methods, and there had been no reports of food poisoning in hospitals or other establishments where the system was in use.

Ballot hurdle for rent switch deal

By David Walker

The Government's plans to transfer council tenants to new landlords may prove difficult to implement because of the costs involved, and the difficulty of balloting 4.5 million households about their wishes.

The Department of the Environment is battling to organize the transfer of new town development corporation tenants, and these problems will be magnified for council tenants. A ballot of 9,000 residents in Telford New Town in Shropshire has already been postponed twice.

According to the housing White Paper published on Tuesday, the Government is to give all council tenants the opportunity to choose a landlord other than the local authority. No details of how they were to be consulted were given.

The ballot of tenants in Telford - for which the Government has promised £40,000 to allow rival landlords to put their case to the tenants - is being seen in the department as a yardstick for future difficulties.

Telford New Town is being wound up in 1991. Last year, the Government proposed to give its tenants the option of transferring their leases. It allocated £20,000 to Wrekin, the local Labour-controlled council in the area, and £20,000 to a consortium of five housing associations to put a case to the tenants.

A ballot, to be conducted under the auspices of the Electoral Reform Society, was to be held to allow tenants to choose. Householders would go to the landlord of their choice. For residents of blocks of flats, the freehold would be transferred to the landlord picked by most residents.

But a postponed ballot announced for October 12 has been deferred. A spokesman for Wrekin council said yesterday: "We are still waiting for something to happen".

The Treasury is believed to be delaying the ballot because it is unhappy with the valuation being put on properties to be transferred from Telford Development Corporation, a quango.

Fewer sons born in drinks trade

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

In a sequel to the discovery that butchers are more likely to have sons than daughters, researchers have found that publicans and bartenders have a better chance of producing baby girls than boys.

A study published today shows that men who work in the drinks industry have between 6 and 10 per cent fewer sons than the average man. The inference is that the more men drink alcohol, the less probable are their prospects of having a son.

The sex ratio of births is normally about 106 males to 100 females, however the study, in the *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of London*, discloses a lower ratio in the offspring of men in alcohol-related jobs. The likeliest explanation is that alcohol reduces levels of the male sex hormone, testosterone.

Mr Bill Lyster, an epidemiologist, carried out the research with Dr Owen Lloyd and Dr Melody Lloyd, a husband and wife team at Ninewells Medical School, Dundee.

Earlier this year the group

reported in *The Lancet* that butchers have 20 per cent more sons than daughters, because they may have eaten more meat from animals given growth-promoting male hormones.

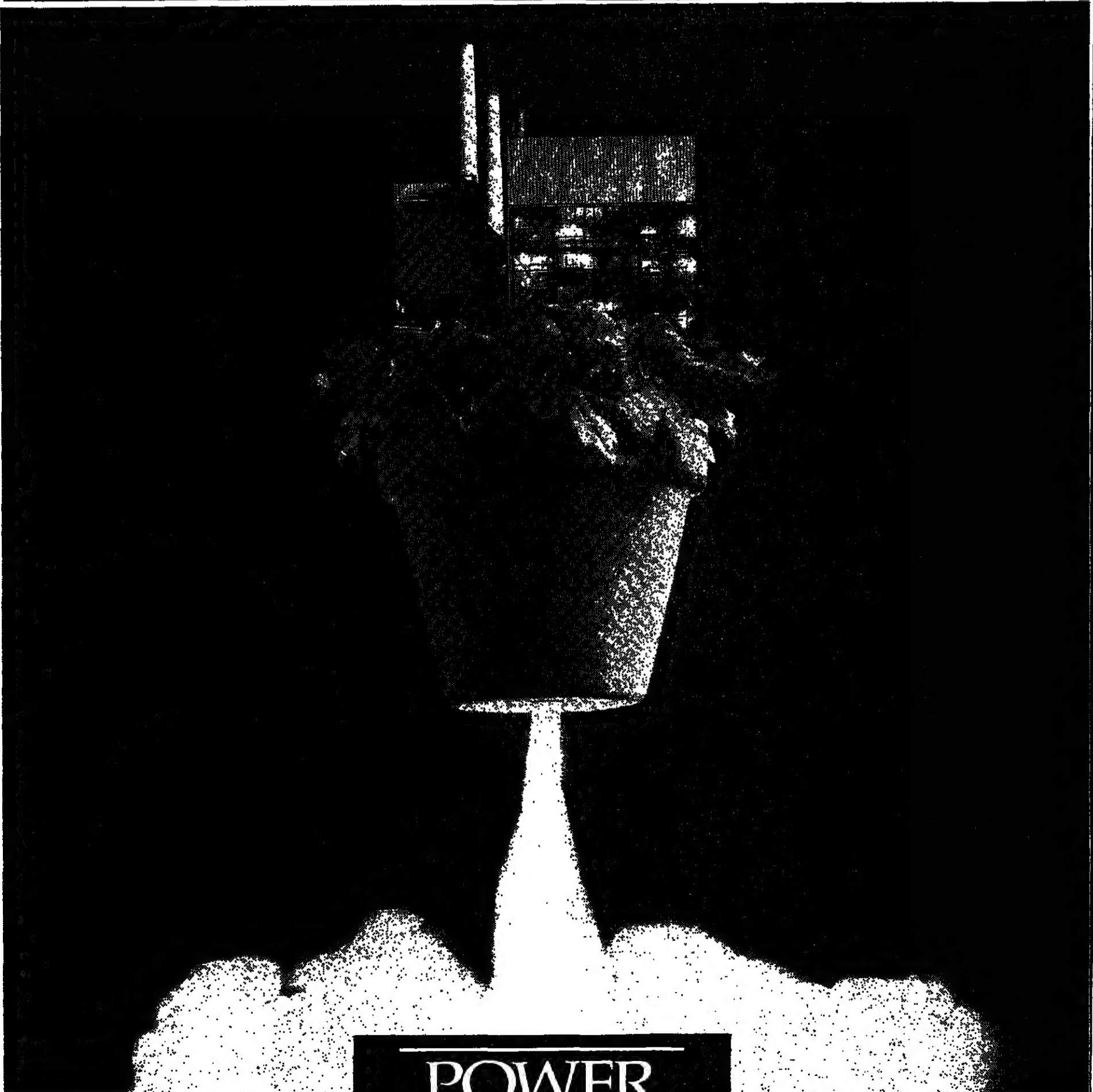
Mr Lyster said yesterday: "Looking at the sex ratio of children is one of the best ways of finding out whether a man's occupation has a damaging effect on his health".

He and the Lloyds built up their picture of the drinks trade by calling data from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys and by studying birth certificates from the years 1931 and 1980-82.

Mr Lyster said other studies have indicated that occupational stresses or toxins may also lower the sex ratio.

If Mr Lyster is right, the Duchess of York's first baby will be a girl. The Duke of York was a navy helicopter pilot. "I'm waiting for the Duchess to confirm my theory," Mr Lyster said. "I hope she has seven daughters in a row to prove my point."

Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of London, vol 21, No 4 October.



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WORLD SUMMARY

Biden 'shopped' by Dukakis aide

Washington — An embarrassing videotape that destroyed the presidential campaign of Senator Joseph Biden by revealing his free-wheeling plagiarism was prepared by the campaign manager of Mr Michael Dukakis, a rival contender (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mr Dukakis yesterday admitted the source of the video, but insisted that he had known nothing about it. He had decided not to accept the resignation of Mr John Sasso, the campaign manager, but had granted him a leave of absence.

The videotape was handed to a number of reporters as evidence that Senator Biden was cribbing from speeches by Mr Neil Kinnock and others. The Senator, who said he forgot to attribute the source of long passages he borrowed from Mr Kinnock, said yesterday that he had now sent all his speeches to the Labour Party leader. "I apparently have breathed new life in Mr Kinnock's campaign. He is more in the news now than he ever has been."

Mr Dukakis said he telephoned Senator Biden yesterday to "apologise to him, to his family and his friends".

From pulpit to poll



Washington — The Rev Pat Robertson, left, a long-shot for the Republican presidential nomination, resigned yesterday as a Southern Baptist minister and severed ties to his \$200 million-a-year Christian Broadcast Network (Christopher Thomas writes). He wanted to avoid implications that a Robertson presidency might inhibit "the free exercise of religion by any of the people". Mr Robertson will announce his candidacy formally today.

Bombs at Eta trial Reagan in Casey row

Madrid — Two explosions near the Madrid High Court yesterday interrupted the beginning of the trial of eight alleged members of Eta — the Basque separatist organization — had been responsible for the blasts. Interior Ministry sources suggested that the fact that the bombs had been home-made made it unlikely that Eta — the Basque separatist organization — had been responsible for the blasts.

No one was injured. Interior Ministry sources suggested that the fact that the bombs had been home-made made it unlikely that Eta — the Basque separatist organization — had been responsible for the blasts.

Some 200 extreme right-wingers, shouting slogans like "Eta, we are going to machine-gun you down," clashed with police after the explosions. People in the area sought shelter, fearing further blasts. Five young right-wingers were detained.

As the trial began, the Spanish authorities revealed that a suspected leader of Eta's military wing known as Santi Poyas had been detained by French police yesterday near Bayonne.

Back in God's care

Islamabad (Reuters) — Dr Najib, the Afghan leader appointed head of state on Wednesday, is restoring the Islamic element in his name and reverting to Najibullah.

Najib means "noble"; the suffix "ullah" added to many Muslim names means "of God". The Afghan state media dropped it after the former secret police chief came to power in May 1986. Since his appointment as General Secretary of the Afghan People's Democratic Party he has redoubled efforts to woo the overwhelmingly Muslim population.

War alert Talks on on glacier hostage

Delhi — Indian troops are on full alert following a border clash with Pakistan over Siachen Glacier in Kashmir. Defence Ministry sources in Delhi said yesterday (Kuldip Nayyar writes).

The glacier, over which the nations have clashed many times since 1984, was reportedly attacked by Pakistan on three days last week; nearly 900 troops trying to overrun posts on the Salator Ridge west of the glacier were beaten back.

WASHINGTON: Congress has suspended new US assistance to Pakistan for six weeks because of concern about its nuclear programme (Christopher Thomas writes). Most members believe there is strong evidence that Pakistan is developing a nuclear bomb.

Vatican sex inquiry

Rome — A priest who has undergone a sex operation will be examined by doctors to determine whether he is a man or a woman (Roger Boyes writes). A Vatican commission will then decide whether the priest — identified only as Don Paolo — should be stripped of the priesthood.

Cardinal Jose Castillo Lara, who will chair the commission, said that one of the main questions was whether the priest would be strong enough to continue after the inquiry. "Even if he became an angel he could not function as a priest under such circumstances."

Mugabe backs crackdown on opposition party

From Jan Raath Harare

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, has confirmed his support for a crackdown on the opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) party of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

A series of measures was announced last week to contain guerrilla activities in the western provinces of Matabeleland.

Further action against Zapu have been revealed with the dissolution of six district councils in Matabeleland North province, all controlled by Zapu.

At the same time, evidence emerged for the first time of a new internal dissident guerrilla threat from the south-east. In a rare interview, Mr

Mugabe was quoted by Zina, the national news agency, as saying that security authorities in the last week had uncovered "immense evidence" to link Zapu with anti-government guerrillas in Matabeleland. It included the discovery of "subversive documents" at the party's offices in Bulawayo during a search by police on September 17.

Following the collapse of negotiations for power sharing between Zapu and Mr Mugabe's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) party — Zanu (PF) — guerrillas "took the law into their own hands" and we are saying it is Zapu", he said.

However, Mr Mugabe was less sanguine than his Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Enos Nkala, who said last

week he had instructed police to regard Zapu in the same light as the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), with whom Zimbabwe is in a state of open war.

The closure of Zapu's offices last week was "temporary", Mr Mugabe said, to enable police to conduct searches.

Because Zapu's leaders had also been involved in the liberation war against the former Rhodesian Government, Mr Mugabe believed they "should be given a chance".

Police chief convicted

Harare — Wiriwiri Nguvwe, Zimbabwe's first black Commissioner of Police, has been found guilty of a series of crimes of abuse of power during the three-and-a-half years he was the country's top policeman (Jan Raath writes). Sentence is expected today.

Nguvwe was found guilty on 10 out of 15 counts, ranging from the theft from police custody of nearly 11,000 tab-

lets of the banned drug, Mandrax, and the smuggling of a television set, to the theft of 4,500 Zimbabwe dollars (\$1,600) from police funds and improper control of firearms.

Nguvwe has yet to appear jointly with his former deputy, Mr Govani Mhoro on another eight charges of attempting to pervert the course of justice and the disappearance of another 60,000 Mandrax tablets.

But in Bulawayo this week, evidence emerged from two court cases of the apparent formation of a resistance group of supporters of the Reverend Ndabasingi Sithole, the former black nationalist leader now self-exiled in the American state of Ohio, with links to South Africa and Renamo.

Seven men of Mr Sithole's Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) were convicted of acting as a recruiting network for volunteers to undertake military training in South Africa.

They were thereafter to join Renamo in Mozambique and proceed to Zimbabwe to "try to topple the Zimbabwean Government". Under Mr Sithole, the killing of the first white in the south-east in 1963

signalled the start of armed resistance to minority rule, but he was deposed in 1975, and his party has fallen since into steady decline.

However, since late last year, Mr Sithole has been linked in press reports to the right-wing US organization, the Heritage Foundation, which is said to have overseen the signing of an alliance between a purported military wing of Zanu and Renamo.

Since July, several incidents involving Renamo have occurred in Chipinge.

The seven convicted Zanu men admitted to recruiting and recruiting 48 volunteers, six of whom were caught at a police roadblock early last month while on their way to South Africa.

US Gulf fleet leads convoy as mine hunt continues

From Nicholas Beeston, Dubai

American warships yesterday escorted one of the largest convoys of merchant vessels into the Gulf as Royal Navy minesweepers hunted nearby for three suspected deep-water mines.

The US operation involved five warships, which escorted two tankers and half a dozen other merchant vessels. The convoy, led by the amphibious assault ship, USS Guadalcanal, and guided by mine-detecting Sea Stallion helicopters, was sighted off Dubai.

Shipping sources said none of the vessels were the 11 re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers whose protection is the primary duty of the US Navy Gulf force, and added that merchant vessels from several countries had followed behind the warships to enjoy American protection.

There are believed to be from 30 to 50 tankers in the Gulf of Oman between the ports of Muscat and Dubai waiting to sail into the Gulf, including at least one British ship.

Washington has stated it will provide protection to merchantmen from any country who come under attack in international waters, but there were signs yesterday that the convoy threatened to turn the American warships into policemen for all Gulf seafarers.

A shipping agent in the United Arab Emirates said: "I have been inundated with calls from shippers asking me to alert them the next time any US ships are sighted, so that they can tag along in the convoy."

At least two of the US warships in the convoy, the



Dr Timoci Bavandra, deposed as Prime Minister of Fiji in last week's coup and imprisoned, smiling yesterday as he is reunited with his wife, Adi Kuni Vunakaba, after being released.

Awakening of tribal conflict is predicted after Fiji coup

By Michael Dynes

News of the coup in Fiji last May came as no surprise to Mr Victor Lal, the 29-year-old Fiji Indian and author of the forthcoming book, *Fiji: The Troubled Paradise*. He had predicted it a year ago, and since then had been counting off the days, awaiting its arrival.

Now, sitting in his study at Oxford University, where he is a Reuter Fellow at Queen Elizabeth House, the centre for development studies, Mr Lal dismisses Lieutenant Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's justification for leading the coups of May and last week as "utterly fallacious", and is convinced that Fiji's domestic turmoil is about to undergo a new and potentially more violent twist.

"The destiny of Fiji has always been guided by the islands' chiefly elite, and they have not hesitated to use the race issue as an instrument to maintain their political domination," he says.

"So Colonel Rabuka's claim that he took power in order to prevent the Indian majority from taking Fiji land, and trampling on ancient Fijian customs and traditions, is nothing new."

But Mr Lal insists that such claims are no truer now than they have ever been. When the islands were granted dominion status in 1970, native Fijians secured a built-in majority in the Senate, which remains the ultimate arbiter on the land question.

What has alarmed the

chiefly oligarchy, claims Mr Lal, is not Indian aspirations for greater security of tenure, but the newly emerging alliance between underprivileged Fijians and Indians, which threatens to undermine the established political order.

"It was this threat which became a reality in April when Dr Timoci Bavandra's multi-racial coalition won the fifth independent general elections. A threat promptly removed by Rabuka's act of desperation, conducted on behalf of the vested interests of Fijian chiefs," he says.

Mr Lal points out that much of the Western media has fallen for the myth of Indian domination of the island's economy. "Apart from the fact that Fijians own almost 90 per cent of the land, the

vast bulk of the remaining economic wealth in the country is in the hands of the big Australian corporations.

"While it is true that a small minority of Indians own houses, shops and cars, the overwhelming majority are poor rural farmers with few material belongings, who are forced to live on a day-to-day basis."

"Many Fijians have fallen victim to this indoctrination. When they see Indian shops and businesses in the urban areas like Suva, they think every Indian is rich. You can't really blame them for that," he says.

But Colonel Rabuka's actions have confronted the tribal chiefs with an acute dilemma. They want to maintain their political ascendancy while retaining Fiji's links with the Commonwealth. Now that association is hanging in the balance, and the question as to which tribal chiefs will rule Fiji in the future has come to the fore.

Mr Lal fears that far from resolving Fiji's domestic tension by military *fait accompli*, Colonel Rabuka may have opened a Pandora's box of dormant tribal rivalries. "Colonel Rabuka does not command the loyalty of the entire army. And although it is predominantly Fijian, it is also tribal in structure — the same kind of tribal structure which has brought havoc to many black African countries," he says.

and told the police how Christopher had asked him to drive the Jaguar to Sweden to sell it.

The changing of Hayward's story is thought to have contributed to his conviction by the Uppsala District Court and he was at pains yesterday to explain why he had not at first been fully frank. It was from a misguided sense, he said, of wishing to protect his brother, the 37-year-old "black sheep" of the Hayward family, who has since disappeared.

He told the three appeal judges and their two lay assessors: "With hindsight, I realise it was an incredibly stupid thing to do, but I can only explain it as a subconscious intuitive act, to protect a member of my family, and I couldn't help myself from doing it."

"I have been convicted for something I haven't done. How do you think I would feel if I had unwittingly involved another innocent person — a person who at that time I thought was almost certainly innocent?"

The hearing continues today when Hayward's mother, Mrs Hazel Hayward, is likely to give evidence.

Yachts impounded: Swedish police said yesterday that they had impounded two British-registered yachts in connection with a big drugs inquiry (Reuters reports from Stockholm). A police spokesman said that about 22 lb of cannabis, part of a much larger consignment, had been discovered on the boats, moored at Karlskrona, southern Sweden.

Hayward speaks of his 'stupid behaviour'

From Michael McCarthy Stockholm

Simon Hayward, the Life Guards captain appealing against his conviction and five-year prison sentence for smuggling cannabis into Sweden, spoke during several hours of cross-examination here yesterday of his "incredibly stupid" behaviour in not immediately telling the full truth to the police officers who arrested him in March.

The 32-year-old soldier, still in the Army pending the appeal verdict, has maintained consistently that he was duped by his brother Christopher into driving a Jaguar, in which 110 lb of the drug, worth £500,000, was carefully concealed, to Sweden from Christopher's home in Ibiza.

But he admitted readily yesterday, as he did at his trial in July and August, that at first he made no mention of Christopher's name to the Swedish police, saying instead that he was on a skiing holiday. Later he decided it was better to tell the full truth

English eyes looked on amazed: a mist was sailing through the air from the beach to the prisoner in the dock (Michael McCarthy writes).

Judge Anders Fröberg, one of three hearing the appeal, had been fumbling in his bag of mints when he caught Hayward's eye. Instinctively he offered one. Hayward grinned and nodded, and before you could say "Contempt of Court", the mint was on its way.

In Sweden the law takes its informal course.

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ANC rebuke for wife of Mandela

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mrs Winnie Mandela has been rebuked — at least by implication — by the African National Congress for remarks she made last year apparently supporting "necklace" killings of blacks accused of collaborating with Pretoria.

This is the inference drawn in black circles here from the call made by Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC's chief president, for an end to such killings when he spoke to delegates attending an international anti-apartheid conference in Harare, the Zimbabwean capital, last week.

Mrs Mandela, the wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC's most famous imprisoned leader, told a meeting in a black township in April last year: "We have no guns. We have only stones, boxes of matches and petrol." She added: "With our necklaces we shall liberate this country."

The "necklace" is the term used in the townships for a petrol-soaked tyre which is placed round the victim's body and set alight.

Delegates who attended the conference yesterday confirmed Mr Tambo's rejection of "necklacing". Maulana Farid Esack, a Muslim activist, said Mr Tambo had urged delegates "to come back and tell other workers in the struggle (against apartheid) to stop 'necklacing'."

Another participant in the conference, Mr Ismail Ayob, the Mandelas' lawyer, told *The Times*: "The message was loud and clear: stop it (necklacing)."

Asked about a report in the Johannesburg newspaper, *The Star*, which quoted an ANC source describing Mrs Mandela's remarks as "unfortunate", Mr Ayob said: "I think that would be an understatement of the ANC's view."

On the AIDS front, California is leading the nation. Mr Deukmejian has approved a law that would allow California to test experimental AIDS drugs on humans without waiting for

the oft-unwieldy US Government Food and Drug Administration to license new drugs.

On the other hand, he vetoed legislation on Monday designed to raise \$150 million for AIDS research by offering tax incentives to private donors.

One law certainly being watched is the rest of the country allows parents of either sex to take up to four months unpaid leave for child-rearing without worrying about losing their jobs. If passed the law would be unique to California, and is being fought by employers' groups.

Another which undoubtedly faces court challenges is aimed squarely at private clubs which discriminate against women and minorities. If it can be proved that such institutions in any way seek to control the numbers of women and minorities who may join them, they will be banned from enjoying significant state tax deductions.

Women, a majority in the Califor-

nia population of 25 million, will also gain from a new law — rather endearingly termed the Restroom Equity Act — which orders sports stadiums and entertainment centres to provide as many lavatories for women as they do for men. Mr Art Torres, a Democrat state Senator from Los Angeles, pushed the Bill through with alacrity after his wife had to wait 30 minutes to use the ladies' room at the famed Hollywood Bowl.

Another body contested law will require the state to film expensive videotape messages, to be screened for students aged 12 to 17, carrying the rather obvious message: "It's OK to say no to sex."

Mr Deukmejian has also made the mass of Californians who voted him into office happy by returning \$1.1 billion (\$614 million) in tax rebates to 13 million residents. In what some say is a pious effort to ease traffic congestion, the Governor has ap-

proved a law which will allow fines of up to \$500 for any motorists who block the flow at junctions by entering on a green light and becoming trapped when red shows.

In the avalanche of new laws — to build extra prisons to ease overcrowded conditions, to curb the disposal of hazardous wastes near reservoirs, and to hire scores more California highway patrolmen to crack down on motorway shootings — there are a few silly-season measures.

Californian motorists will soon be able to buy personalized number plates at \$50 apiece — with the revenue going to boost the arts. Promoters of illegal dogfights can be jailed for up to three years and face a \$50,000 fine. And now landlords will no longer be able to discriminate against tenants who prefer to sleep on water beds. If the statute is passed, a flood-insurance policy is case the bed springs a leak.

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California deluged by laws both serious and silly

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

These are busy days for Mr George Deukmejian, the Republican Governor of California, who this week has been signing into law a welter of new Bills ranging from measures on the cutting edge of social reform to the virtually unenforceable and downright frivolous.

Although the California legislature has adjourned its 1987 session, there are still some 350 Bills awaiting the Governor's yes or no, and he had until midnight last night to approve or veto the measures.

In the belief that what California passes today the rest of America will get to tomorrow, observers closely watch the fate of even the most trivial pieces of legislation that come out of the most populous state in the Union.

One measure signed at the weekend, which becomes law on January 1, is a controversial move that even

the Governor admits will be difficult to enforce.

The new law bans smoking on flights that both begin and end in California, and passengers fighting up could face \$500 (£307) fines for breaking it. It will also be forbidden to smoke on buses and trains that run in California.

Another measure likely to face immediate court challenges is that requiring unmarried minors who want an abortion to obtain their parents' consent or seek a court order. Opponents consider it a retrograde step which will lead to girls seeking illegal abortions rather than notifying their parents or attempting the difficult task of persuading a judge to overrule the parental prerogative.

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Tension in Philippines

Coup rumour brings troops and tanks on to Manila streets

From Humphrey Hawksley, Manila

Troops supported by tanks were deployed at key roads leading into Manila yesterday after reports that several hundred rebel soldiers were planning to overthrow President Aquino.

Most were withdrawn in the evening, with an army spokesman saying "all talk about unauthorized troop movement is entirely false". His statement indicated the amount of tension - fuelled by rumour - there has been in Manila since the military rebellion in August.

These latest rumours began last week, when it was thought that right-wing elements of the army might try to disrupt the funeral procession on Tuesday of the assassinated left-wing leader, Mr. Benigno Aquino. They did not.

On Tuesday evening, a renegade former colonel, Mr. Reynaldo Cabautan, who has been in hiding since last year, gave a news conference. Among other things, he said he was setting up a provisional government against Mrs. Aquino.

Then a lorry ran into an electricity pole, causing a power cut in the main military camp in Manila. Soldiers there thought rebel troops were attacking. Later that evening there were reports of troop movements, but these were later confirmed to be soldiers on authorized operations. But by morning, radio stations were broadcasting reports about an impending coup.

"What this country suffers from as much as anything is rumour," said one diplomat. "Every time the Government reacts to rumour it increases the impression of instability here."

Yesterday's reports refocused attention on divisions within the Philippine military, after it had been concentrated on what was reported as a large-scale military offensive against communist insurgents

in the Bicol region, about 250 miles south-east of Manila.

But Bicol itself has fallen victim to rumour, and the situation is in marked contrast to the impression given by President Aquino and her officials last week, when there were reports that the communist New People's Army was planning to isolate the six provinces of the Bicol region, possibly with the intention of declaring a provisional government.

In Bicol, where the Philippines military is meant to be conducting a huge offensive

Manila - The Philippine Senate yesterday withheld a disputed intelligence report on alleged pro-left government officials as President Aquino tried to play down the affair (AFP reports). The campaign against left-wingers by Mr. Salvador Laurel, the Vice-President, who gave the report to the senate, has been denounced as an attempt to boost his political stature.

against communist guerrillas, the provincial commander, Colonel Andres Superable, is chatting to local businessmen in the shade of a palm tree at his headquarters.

A brigade commander, Colonel Abraham Manuel, is briefing journalists. He does not think anything is particularly amiss.

The regional commander, General Luis San Andres, is target-shooting.

Since the August military coup attempt, there is no doubt that the New People's Army has stepped up its campaign throughout the country. Guerrilla operations have doubled and Bicol appears to have been singled out. Five bridges were attacked and two towns were overrun, but only for a few hours.

In response, President Aquino declared that the situation in Bicol was a "military problem" which required

a "military solution". Two battalions of Scout Rangers - special anti-insurgency troops - were sent down and are now being deployed.

But travelling around the area, the possibilities of martial law and a communist provisional government seem improbable. The markets are full. The roads are busy. The town squares are packed with people at night. The military estimates that there are only 1,300 guerrilla fighters in a population of 3.5 million.

The further you get away from the main roads and provincial centres, the closer you get to whatever war is being fought.

According to the Government, a third of the villages in the region are controlled by the New People's Army. One is Liput, where the village chief, Mr. Yuhenio Flores, says of the guerrillas: "They keep the peace. They free the people from thieves and trouble-makers."

Liput has no medical care, no school and no electricity. It is an example of why the Government is losing support to communism. The provincial Governor, Mr. Luis Villafuerte, says he needs at least \$3 million to win back the trust of the people by giving them basic facilities.

Three months ago he made a request to the Government. So far, he says, there has not even been an acknowledgment.

The main thrust of the military campaign in Bicol now is being carried out by the two battalions of Scout Rangers. They work in patrols of about 20 men going off for days at a time deep into the jungle. But less than one in five patrols encounters any guerrillas. There has been no confirmed report of fighting since they were sent in.

For most people in Bicol, life is normal. But rumour often fuels for political gain creates tension.

Mutineers protest over flights of fancy

From Charles Bremner, New York

America's civil war between its chaotic airlines and the people who fly on them has taken a new turn this week with the first full-scale mutiny by would-be passengers.

Ground staff of Eastern Airlines in Miami called in the police to try to quell about 200 passengers incensed by the cancellation of the last flight to New York on Sunday night.

Much of the fighting was among passengers for the chance of a seat on a smaller plane brought in by the airline. After a pitched battle, five passengers were arrested, ranging from middle-aged businessmen to a boy of 14. One of them faces charges that carry a maximum 10-year jail sentence.

"For a time there was an unruly and unmanageable situation for officers to handle," said a spokesman for the Miami police, a force not renowned for its gentle tactics. "Just as things

started to calm down and people were being led away, one man got up and started telling people to go through the gate and force their way on a plane."

The Miami scene was the worst instance so far of a now familiar event. Usually, the approach of armed police quiets the beleaguered businessmen who have resorted to jungle behaviour in the face of Stone Age service.

One airline recently apologized and compensated a passenger who was frog-marched off an airliner in handcuffs after he refused to stop complaining to a stewardess. The passenger, from Sierra Leone, was helped by fellow passengers who signed a petition and went straight to the television news companies.

The airlines deny it, but cynics are suggesting that they are resorting to psychology to deflect the anger of frustrated passengers onto their fellow travellers. Announcing that "due to an equipment malfunction" half the

checked-in passengers will have to stay behind, seems to be aimed at dividing and ruling.

In the Miami case, the airline announced that only 99 out of 317 would-be passengers would be able to take the replacement plane. The Times correspondent has recently witnessed two near-riots among passengers.

In the last instance, earlier this month, a Pan Am ground stewardess at New York's La Guardia airport advised one passenger to "can it buddy, because I've had you up to here." On that flight, I stayed behind, but my baggage left for Washington.

Another new tactic employed by the airlines consists of humouring the long-suffering and increasingly terrified passengers by making jokes, some of them a little close to the bone, given the recent record of some of the companies.

For example, United Airlines has taken to having its cabin staff vary a

familiar announcement on the approach to land: "Ladies and gentlemen, the captain has just turned on the no smoking sign, which is the surest sign that he has managed to find the airport and is preparing to land." The same airline warns passengers not to smoke in the lavatory, saying: "The alarm will go off and it will be very embarrassing for you and you will be asked to deplane immediately."

Another almost universal tactless announcement goes: "This plane is leaving for Los Angeles (or wherever). If Los Angeles does not feature in your immediate travel plans, then now would be a good time to consider disembarking."

And then there is the now-familiar arrival announcement made as the more nervous passengers are milking the blood back into their white knuckles. "Welcome to wherever, ladies and gentlemen. Now the safest part of your journey is over, we remind you to drive safely and buckle up."

US pledge to Bonn over arms agreement

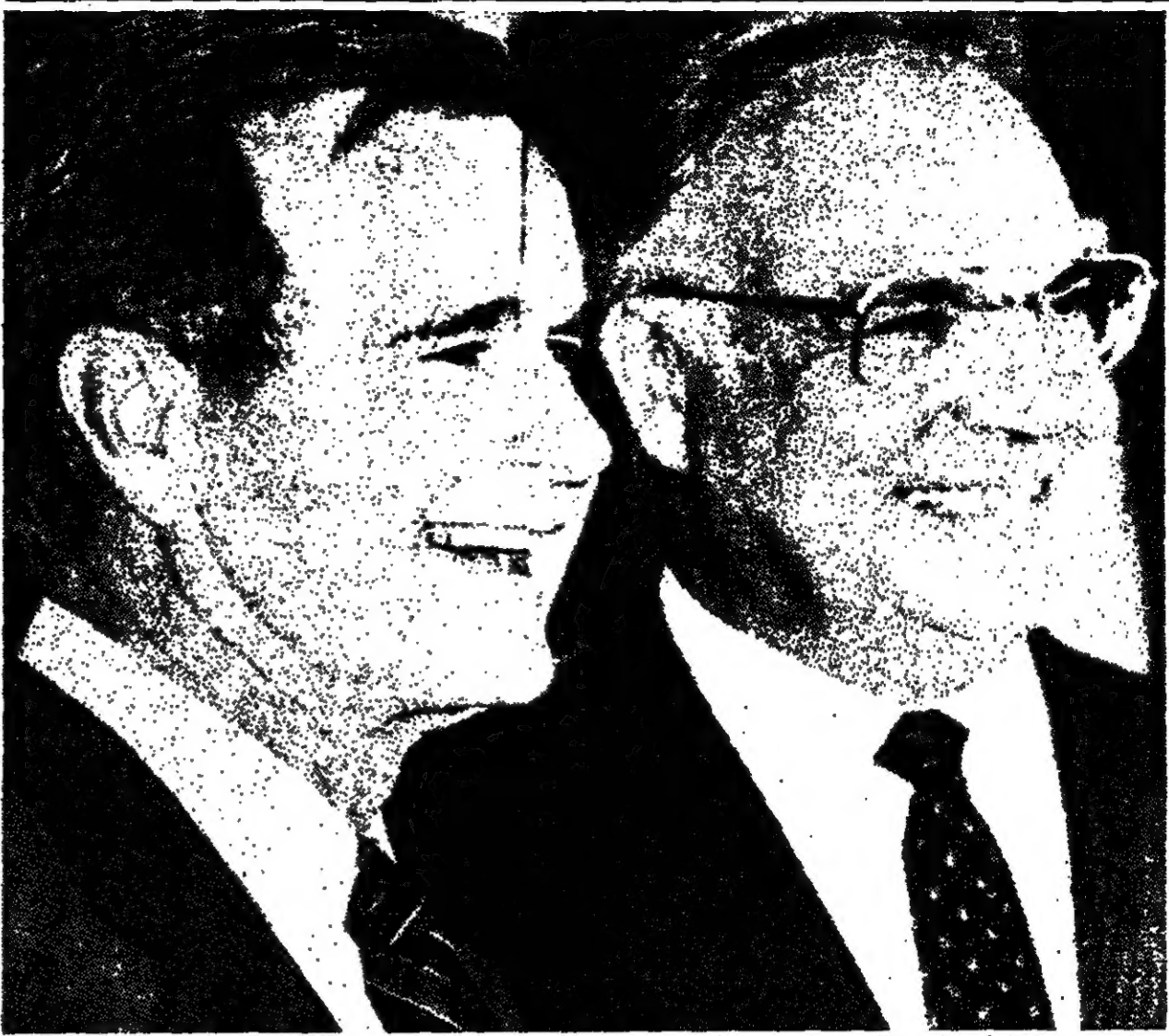
Bonn - The US Vice-President, Mr. George Bush, said yesterday that the United States would not use a nuclear arms control agreement with the Soviet Union to move away from Nato. (John England writes)

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Bush praised West Germany's commitment to Nato and said that the US would not take any steps towards disarmament that would prejudice its links with West Germany.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl emphasized Bonn's wish for a superpower agreement on Euro-missiles by the end of this year, as well as for disarmament negotiations on strategic nuclear missiles, chemical weapons, conventional forces and short-range missiles.

The two men were speaking after a one-hour meeting during which they discussed progress in the US-Soviet arms control negotiations. Mr. Bush's visit to Poland and the recent visit to West Germany by Herr Erich Heister, the East German leader.

Mr. Bush also had talks with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, which covered, among other things, Poland's financial problems.



All smiles: Mr. Bush, the US Vice-President, and Chancellor Kohl of West Germany, during discussions in Bonn yesterday.

Western pessimism confirmed

Gorbachov cites grave internal problems

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

"It is a modern state which has immense achievements. It is a society possessing a huge political, intellectual, scientific and natural potential. But it is a society which has many problems."

"There are problems in the political process, in the development of our democracy. There are problems in the social sphere, and in the economy. Problems also exist in the spiritual sphere, in the sphere of moral philosophy and morality."

With that frank admission in the first speech he has delivered for more than six weeks - published in full in yesterday's main Soviet papers - Mr. Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, confirmed the gloomy predictions of Western experts about the grave internal difficulties that face him after his long absence from the Kremlin.

He chose not to dwell at any length on the parallel international problems, which include a decision on personal arrangements for the Washington summit later this year, and the degree to which he will allow the issue of "Star Wars" to hold up chances for a new accord on cutting long-range nuclear missiles.

Although Mr. Gorbachov denied publicly to 365 members of a French delegation that he faced any political

opposition, the outspoken stand taken by Mr. Yegor Ligachev, the Kremlin's No. 2, during his Black Sea sojourn, will have been an unwelcome reminder of the differences which remain inside the 14-strong Politburo.

At a heated meeting with Soviet media representatives on September 16, Mr. Ligachev is reported to have clashed openly with the most progressive Soviet editor, Mr. Yegor Yakovlev of *Moscow News* - one of Mr. Gorbachov's most ardent disciples - and to have instructed all editors not to overdo *glasnost* by excessive exposure of failings in Soviet society.

In an angry letter printed in *Pravda* during Mr.

Gorbachov's absence a reader complained that the ratio of positive to negative stories now appearing in the press here was one to nine, and demanded this be reversed.

More ominous in the view of Moscow's newly liberated intelligentsia was the warning issued on September 10 by General Viktor Chebrikov, the powerful chief of the KGB. "We have among us, and here one must speak plainly, people with alien ideas which are even openly hostile to socialism," he said.

Significantly, Mr. Gorbachov used his first post-holiday appearance to tackle this contentious point, and to try and minimize the threat on his reforms.

Arctic port of call for Kremlin chief

Less than 24 hours after reappearing in Moscow after a seven-week absence, Mr. Gorbachov flew to Murmansk yesterday to start a provincial tour in the remote but highly strategic northern port, the largest city in the world north of the Arctic Circle (Our Own Correspondent writes from Moscow).

The surrounding area of the Kola peninsula is home to two thirds of the Kremlin's submarine fleet. Over the last two decades it has become the

largest concentration of Soviet military power, prompting recent calls from the Norwegian government for Oslo to beef up its forces in the region.

There is speculation that the Soviet leader may use the occasion to make a foreign policy speech. He may also stage televised walkabouts to re-establish himself with Soviet viewers after his long absence.

Mr. Gorbachov's departure from Moscow and his landing in Murmansk, a city of some

400,000 people, was briefly reported by Tass, but the official Soviet news agency gave no details of his programme. Nor was the trip announced in advance.

Since taking office Mr. Gorbachov has made a point of visiting places outside Moscow, where he has frequently spoken out strongly in support of his reform drive. He has visited the biggest cities and travelled as widely as the Baltic Republics and the port of Vladivostok in the far east.

Admitting that there were "extremist, anti-socialist elements" that might take advantage of *glasnost*, he then emphasized: "This phenomenon is not so widespread."

One Moscow intellectual commented afterwards: "As soon as he is away from the seat of power, we get the feeling of just how fragile these changes may be. It is so obvious that people with very different ideas are waiting in the wings if anything should happen."

Mr. Gorbachov tacitly acknowledged also the growing criticism of his economic experiments from conservatives, who fear that they form the thin end of the wedge

to a fatal dilution of present-day communism.

He told his audience in the Kremlin's elegant Sverdlov Hall that the Soviet people were now "trying to see to it that individual activity should not lead to a hoarding mentality, to private-owner psychology; that the spread of co-operatives should not lead to grabbing habits, to stripping the working class through high prices of co-operative products."

He painted mostly with a broad brush, not referring to the problems of the 1987 grain and vegetable harvest now threatened by appalling weather. Mr. Gorbachov, who plans to grasp the nettle of long overdue agricultural reform at the next biannual plenary session of the Communist Party's ruling Central Committee, acknowledged that changes were taking place slowly. But he adopted the overriding tone of optimism which has become the hallmark of his set-piece addresses.

"You might say: Does everyone understand and feel perestroika (restructuring) deeply enough? Is everyone, so to say, actively involved in perestroika?" he asked. "I can only say that perestroika is gaining momentum."

Leading article, page 13

Rome synod ponders priests in politics and role of laity

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Rome airport was full of red and purple yesterday as scores of cardinals, archbishops, church theologians and lay Roman Catholics, clutching clipboards, identification badges and duty-free bags, arrived for a month-long synod.

The session will try to solve two of the most complex riddles facing active Catholics: When and how should priests shun or embrace politics? And what are the limits for lay people who want to play a more vigorous part in preaching the gospel?

The synod, presided over by the Pope, will be opened today with a Mass in St Peter's. After an address by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's chief theologian, the clerics and the experts will proceed to open Pandora's box.

Mrs Kathleen Sullivan, the executive director of the American National Catholic Coalition, says: "There is clearly a role identity crisis going on in the church. Some of the laity want to do what the clergy does and some of the clergy are involved with economic and defence issues which are generally the layman's responsibility."

Following the Pope's pastoral visit to the United States in September, the battleground has become particularly complicated. In the US - but also in Western Europe

and, for slightly different reasons, Africa - Catholic activists, including women and married men who cannot be ordained, are working as "ministers". They are holding prayer meetings and acting as spiritual guides for their local communities. This is seen as a good thing by the US episcopate, especially when there is a shortage of ordination candidates. But as the US tour made plain, it is also adding to the pressure to change church teachings and ordain women and divorced men.

Priests, meanwhile, are becoming more socially aware - and that often thrusts them into political conflict. This has a different meaning according to continent and culture; clearly there are tensions even within delegations to the synod. This right-wing American lay Catholics - such as the National Catholic Coalition - are fiercely critical of some US delegates whom they hold to be excessively liberal.

They say that US bishops have been intervening too much in national politics - citing the episcopate's pastoral letter condemning nuclear warfare, for example - while neglecting the issues of abortion and sex education.

For Poland, represented at the synod by the Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, and other members of the Catholic

hierarchy, including an outspoken champion of Solidarity, Bishop Ignacy Tokarczuk, priestly politics takes on different shades. Should Polish priests, for example, allow Catholic theatre groups to stage verse dramas and plays in church when the content is obviously critical of the Government?

But the most precarious position is maintained by the Latin American delegates to the synod. Liberation theology, which finds common ground between the Marxist and Catholic approaches to overcoming poverty and tyranny, is still rooted strong, despite the various muzzles put on liberationists such as Father Leonardo Boff and Father Gustavo Gutierrez.

What is plain generally is that there is no longer a clear-cut distinction between priests who cater for spiritual needs and lay Catholics who act as ambassadors to the real world.

One irony greeted the 232 delegates as they flew in yesterday: a full-scale row has erupted in Rome over the role of religious education in Italian schools. The Pope has sided with the Italian bishops in their demand that such education be compulsory. The Christian Democrat Education Minister has shot back, accusing the Holy See of interfering in Italian politics and violating the concordat.

Money-go-round for Latin American debtors grinds to a halt

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

After five years of seeming to ignore the warnings of economic doom and riding the debtors' money-go-round with apparent impunity, observers believe the crunch may be coming for Latin America.

With the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund gathered in Washington this week for ritual hand-wringing at their annual summit meeting, sources insist that this time the days of the telephone-number loan and elastic repayment deadline have finally ended.

The problem for both sides is an acute case of "debt-lock". Latin American borrowing has ballooned from \$325 billion (£199 billion) in 1982 before the debt crisis to \$400 billion today - more than a third of the \$1,100 billion the poor world owes to the rich.

The Third World's biggest debtor, Brazil, is more than \$4 billion in arrears with the banks and is not talking with the IMF. Argentina, with vanishing reserves and a resurgence of inflation, will almost certainly have to tear up an austerity agreement made with the Fund only eight months ago. The most important non-Latin debtors, the Philippines, with \$26 billion in

outstanding loans, is also wobbling on the edge of insolvency even though the link is barely dry on its huge debt-refinancing package.

Bank stocks, which rallied in the day-after euphoria of Citicorp's heroic May increase of reserves against doubtful loans, are vulnerable again to further losses on Third World credits. "Among the debtors, the siren song of default is gaining new supporters," Mr. Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, vice-president of First Boston International, writes in the latest issue of *Foreign Affairs*, a US publication.

There is no more important, or delicate, negotiation than that going on at present with Brazil. Since February 20, Brazil has paid neither interest nor principal on its \$68 billion in foreign bank debt. A solution is needed urgently to relieve the credit squeeze and to allow Brazil to grow again, and, on the other hand, to salvage the banks' balance sheets. But the mood seems to be more one of bailing out than of rebuilding.

Last month, when the US Treasury Secretary, Mr. James Baker, dismissed summarily a radical proposal for writing down the Brazilian foreign debt as a "non-starter", some 700 creditor banks, sighed with relief. The scheme, delivered by the Finance

Minister, Senator Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, called for converting about a third of Brazil's \$110 billion debt into long-term bonds - issued at fire-sale discounts. The Brazilians argued that the deal would merely make formal the hitherto taboo notion - that a hefty chunk of Third World debt was simply unpayable.

Creditors, however, charged that the debt discount package amounted to waving goodbye to billions of dollars in outstanding Brazilian loans and officially sanctioning debtor profligacy.

Mr. Baker's salvo may have sent a mollified Senator Bresser into retreat to Brasilia, but it did not end the war of nerves between the banks and their biggest Third World client. Last week, Senator Bresser returned to the United States, with some carefully staged debt theatre. This time he was escorted by the president of Brazil's central bank, a special financial adviser, and 18 aides de camp. This debt squad, Brazil's largest in recent memory, came proclaiming its wishes for an "objective and cordial" negotiation with the world's banking leaders, but grinding for war.



of Argentina and Senator Gustavo Petricoli of Mexico. The trio, representing an ominous \$264 billion in debts, formed a permanent "consultation group", and dubbed it G3. As the Brazilians sat down with the banks, G3 was blaming the debt crisis on "maladjustments in the international economy". From both sides of the barricades it looked like another long round.

Worse still, a vital deadline looms. On October 26 the inter-agency country exposure risk com-

mittee, a federal bank supervising agency that dispenses credit ratings, must decide whether to reclassify the loans commercial banks have made to Brazil as "value-impaired", a category reserved only for the most indigent nations, such as Nicaragua and North Korea. Brazil, seven months in arrears on interest on private bank loans, is a prime candidate for demotion.

The lower rating would oblige banks to chalk up their Brazilian credits as losses. This would be a severe blow and could inflict heavy damage on some American banks, which together reported a loss of \$10.6 billion in the second quarter of this year, the worst since 1933, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Washington insists that Brazil could be dragged down with the banks. "This would be a major degrading," one foreign diplomat in Brazil said. "The committee is run by those green-eyed guys. They don't give a damn about hemispheric affairs and the importance of allies. They look at the balance sheet, and then they decide."

Brazil is sanguine, however, that the worst will not come to pass, and hardliners in government dismiss the deadline as a negotiation bluff. "Everybody

knows Brazil already is not paying its debt. What difference would a lowered credit rating really make?" one senior American banker asked.

The banks, looking no further than the quarterly balance sheets, have proposed that Brazil should make a symbolic interest payment, of say \$400 million, before October 26. The instalment would show Brazil's "good faith" in negotiations and so avoid the worst from the "green-eyed" group. Brazil has so far rejected the idea on grounds that it would upstage the loftier aim of a once-and-for-all rescheduling of its entire 12-digit debt.

Basilia came back with an updated debt plan: turning a portion of its debt, perhaps 10 to 20 per cent, into securities - but with no discount this time, and up to 35 year maturities. Instead of discounts, the bonds would carry lower interest rates. Banks opting for the bonds would be exempted from new loans. Another carrot: Brazil could pay back the loan principal at a faster rate if the economy performed unexpectedly well.

But the toned-down plans have some stiff caveats. Senator Bresser wants to eliminate the "spread" - the profit banks make on relending money - on any new loans. He

also insists on excluding the IMF, which the Brazilians see as a collection agency for the banks, from debt talks.

But foreigners appear to be doubtful about the roller-coaster political fortunes of President Sarney of Brazil, of Brasilia's opaque economic policies, and of the prospects of Senator Bresser's own tenure to strike a long-term deal.

Whatever they do, the creditors, backed by Washington, want to hurry slowly. "What the banks give Brazil they will probably have to give the other debtors," Mr. Kuczynski of First Boston writes. "Brazil is really negotiating on behalf of Latin America."

Despite the heat and the rhetoric, debt watchers are betting on a much more prosaic finish to the latest round of debt negotiations. While banks push for Brazil to make a token interest payment, the country could turn to a fall-back proposal - a quick further loan from the banks of \$7.2 billion, to refinance interest due this year and in 1988.

Both sides will have avoided a showdown. The debt crisis will be far from solved, but it will have been forestalled a few precious months more. As the fissures are papered over, victory, of course, will be claimed all around.



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SPECTRUM

The former favourite returns to the Tory conference fold next week with a mission — electricity privatization

Back on the high wire

Of all our political parties, it is the Tories who go to the greatest lengths to exclude all possibility of drama at their annual conferences. Sententious harmony and capacious solidarity are the more normal order of the day.

So by a natural perversion of events, the three most dramatic party conferences since the war have all been Tory. There was of course the Brighton bombing. The other two were at Blackpool: 1963, turned into a leadership hustings by Harold Macmillan's sudden decision to resign the premiership; and 1983, a victory celebration thrown into consternation by the fall of Cecil Parkinson.

No one who witnessed that occasion will ever forget it. The overthrow of the architect of election victory, was a lesson in the unpredictability of political life. The drama was played out in the conference hall and before the television cameras, and ended with the ignominious early-morning flight of the Parkinsons from a hotel side door only a few hours after the conference had given him a standing ovation.

Next week Parkinson will be back at Blackpool, restored to the Cabinet as Energy Secretary and guaranteed another standing ovation from delegates celebrating another general election victory. Parkinson is not only back, he is in buoyant spirits, and his name has even bounced again into the perennial round of gossip and guesswork about the party's future leadership.

THE TIMES PROFILE

CECIL PARKINSON

The many observers who always considered his qualifications for high office to have more to do with haircuts and tailoring than with deeper political insight, find the development bewildering. But the party, and its leader, can forgive a well-groomed, charming man very nearly anything.

"I'm not sure he's an enormously original thinker, but perhaps not everybody in the Cabinet needs to be," says one of the more mordant observers among leading Tories. "Does the leader need to be? Sometimes yes and sometimes possibly not. Cecil's leadership chances partly depend on when the Prime Minister goes. If she stays on a bit, that will help him to consolidate his position."

Ivor Stanbrook, one of the most tight-lipped puritans on the Tory backbenches, was among the first in 1983 to declare publicly that Parkinson ("a self-confessed adulterer and damned fool") should go. Now he accepts that he has done his penance, and joins in the welcome for the returning prodigal.

"I don't think one can rule him out as a possible future leader," Stanbrook says now. "None of us is perfect. The question of the leadership depends on who is available

when the situation arises. Margaret Thatcher herself would hardly have been seen as a possible leader a year before she stood for it."

Others, like Norman Tebbit, one of Parkinson's earliest political associates, urged him to stay at that time. Tebbit was probably the first colleague to whom he confided his private anxieties during the 1983 campaign. They decided to keep it from Mrs Thatcher until polling day. "He was a remarkably successful party chairman, and I have been very much of the view that he should come back," Tebbit says today.

After 1983, Parkinson carefully rejected a number of rewarding business offers which would have conflicted with a future political comeback. The stresses of his highly-publicized period of disgrace were increased by anxieties over his eldest daughter Mary, who has struggled for years with a drug problem and who appeared in court this week for cocaine possession. He and his wife — who seems to have been the first to aim him towards a political career — are involved with charities working to rehabilitate drug addicts.

Parkinson still carries with him a patrician air of never having had to struggle. It is one of the things those who dislike him find irritating. For a Lancashire railwayman's son, rather slow to find himself and with no remarkable early talents apart from making money and enjoying spending it, he has come rather a long way.

New rivals have come to the fore while he has been away. In one of the most enthusiastic bouts of premature king-making since Prince Hal, John Moore, the Social Services Secretary, has been acclaimed



as a future leader, largely on the strength of his resemblance to Parkinson. Lord Young, out of the running for leadership as a peer, has the special ear and esteem of the Prime Minister in a way that used to be Parkinson's special preserve.

But some observers claim that the technicians which Mrs Thatcher was inclined to show in the last Parliament was connected with a sense that she could see no successor who would continue the course she had set. Parkinson's return may fill the gap, and his fate may depend on whether when the time comes the perceived need is for carrying on or for breaking new ground.

There is no doubt that his

relationship with her is an exceptional one. "She has a weakness for good looking men — Humphrey Atkins was another who exercised a certain charm," says one commentator. "But you mustn't think that Cecil was a yes-man. The point was that he was one of the few people who knew how to argue her out of a chosen course of action — a minister through whom other ministers would operate when they wanted to persuade her."

His new job in the Cabinet is one which offers less opportunity for instant glory than his old job of Chairman master-minding an election campaign against a Labour Party which was its own worst

enemy. Privatizing the electricity industry is one of the most important commitments in the manifesto, with long-term implications for the economy. But it will be a long haul, and it is very technical.

All his City skills in massaging ailing companies into health will be in demand. But the Government's commitment to act before the next election limits the scope for really radical reconstructions, and the future over British Telecom suggests that the public is more inclined today to look at privatization projects and ask what the results will be in terms of better service.

The job also involves responsibility for the coal industry, which won his

BIOGRAPHY

- 1931: Born in Carnforth, Lancs, son of railwayman. Educated at Royal Lancaster grammar school and Cambridge.
- 1956-60: Trainee business manager and chartered accountant.
- 1957: Married Ann Jarvis. Three daughters: Mary, Emma, Joanna.
- 1959: Joined Conservative Party.
- 1970: Won Enfield by-election.
- 1972: PPS to Aviation minister Michael Heseltine.
- 1979: Junior minister in Department of Trade.
- 1981: Party chairman with Cabinet seat.
- 1982: Member of Falklands War Cabinet.
- 1983: Managed June general election campaign; in October resigned after revelations about Sara Keays.
- 1987: Returned to Cabinet after general election as Energy Secretary.

predecessor, Peter Walker, more grateful than praise. But the miners' reluctant response to Arthur Scargill's call for industrial action shows how deeply conditions in that industry have changed. The Scargill of today is not the Scargill of 1984, and the Haslam of today is certainly no MacGregor.

Some detect a change in him: "He felt angry that his life had been destroyed as it had, and wanted to come back to prove he could. Now he has, he is much more relaxed about his future than he was before it happened," says one member of the Government.

There is still far to go before he can be considered a major leadership contender. "He's aware he has got to re-prove himself, that he's under some sort of test," says a minister who has worked closely with him in the past, adding with a nice touch in euphemism: "The period in the private sector has revived his batteries again, and he is glad to be back. As for ambition, I think he's always been relatively calm about that. Even when things looked darkest for him, he was remarkably equable. I don't think he's one of those people who spend a lot of time at night worrying about things like that."

FINDINGS

A weekly series on research CONSERVATION



Lynx, extinct in central Europe since the beginning of this century, have made a comeback after re-introduction in Switzerland and Yugoslavia. This middle-sized cat, with distinctive black ear tufts, can take chamois, mouflon and roe deer, and travels long distances. Biologists are concerned that it may spread into Italy and the Abruzzo National Park, in the central Apennines, home of the rare and vulnerable Abruzzo Chamois. **Paul Manton**

CLASSICS



Six years ago two men with metal detectors near Almagitas in the province of Seville, came across six brass tablets bearing the longest Latin inscription yet known — the municipal charter granted by the Emperor Domitian (AD 81-96) to a previously unknown Roman town, probably called Irit. To Roman historians the inscription was a sensational find, containing most of the law regulating the town's affairs, from the election of magistrates to the release of slaves. The *Journal of Roman Studies* contains the first publication, by Professor Julian Gonzalez and Professor Michael Crawford. It is available from the Roman Society, 31-34 Gordon Square, London, price 28. **Martin F. Smith**

ARCHAEOLOGY



Among the finds in the famous Anglo-Saxon ship-burial at Sutton Hoo was a purse decorated with pairs of birds, the meaning of which has escaped archaeologists for half a century. Each pair shows a larger bird clutching a smaller, and explanations have varied from Christian symbolism to a derivation from South Russian animal art. Dr Carol Hicks, of Cambridge, has a simpler solution: that the larger bird is a sporting falcon and the smaller a duck. She suggests the design alludes to a favourite sport of the dead king. **Norman Hammond**

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1375

ACROSS

- 1 Token (6)
- 4 Compelling dread (6)
- 9 Entertainer (7)
- 10 Pieces with tusk (5)
- 11 Duo (4)
- 12 Thermidor crustacean (7)
- 14 John Merrick (8,3)
- 18 Downcast (7)
- 19 Irritable (4)
- 22 Faith (5)
- 24 Friction match (7)
- 25 Secreted (6)
- 26 Maintenance (6)

DOWN

- 1 Summit (4)
- 2 Additional (5)
- 3 Slug, snail (9)
- 5 Cuddle (3)
- 6 RC Priest's cap (7)
- 7 Alliance (6)
- 8 Bike gang (5,6)
- 11 Ordinary soldier (3)
- 13 Ranunculus (9)
- 15 Without energy (7)
- 16 Negative vote (3)
- 17 Reed roof (6)
- 20 Social blunder (5)
- 21 Harvest (4)
- 23 Draw (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1374

- ACROSS: 1 Hornpipe, 5 Fled, 9 Explain, 10 Urgho, 11 Abyss, 12 Nod, 13 Lanky, 15 Credo, 16 Nigma, 18 Chang, 20 Mulla, 21 Foulard, 23 X-ray, 24 Flashing.
- DOWN: 1 Heel up, 2 Repetise, 3 Pies, 4 Penny dreadful, 6 Lobe, 7 Dinghy, 8 Quisling, 11 Advocate, 14 Nagasaki, 15 Chinook, 17 Sea dog, 19 Alga, 22 USS.

TLS



In tomorrow's TLS
GORE VIDAL
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ON SALE EVERY WEEK

By rickshaw to the Palace



Chain gang: Charlie Duesbury, London's chief rickshaw wallah

It had to happen. For decades they have been saying that Britain was becoming a third-world economy. Now rickshaws can be seen on the streets of London.

In Asia, the cycle-rickshaw wallah is one of the lowliest members of society, exploited by avaricious rickshaw owners and subject to crippling occupational ailments ranging from heart strain to impotence. Governments anxious to promote a more up-to-date image are eager to see them all replaced by fleets of taxis.

But Charlie Duesbury, pedalling his three-wheeler up Whitehall with a load of steak-fed Texans, does not see himself as engaged in an old-fashioned or demeaning trade — rather as an entrepreneurial environmentalist, contributing local colour free of hydrocarbons to the capital's street life.

"It's an outdoor life and keeps you fit," says Duesbury, aged 29, from Kingston-on-Thames. "We've had a few people saying it's slave labour, but we have a super time and meet lots of nice people."

"I set the business up last year for under £2,000. Even with this year's bad season we've turned over more than we imagined, and certainly the lads have got a living out of it."

A pool of about five riders operate a fleet of three rickshaws out of Covent Garden on round trips over set routes, using purpose-built machines with room on the back for two adults and a child.

"It's not really heavy work,

because the gearing is very low. But sometimes the heart sinks when we see the customers coming. A girl took two lads the other day who must have weighed 30 stone between them, but she managed to get them round the course."

A few taxi drivers have shown an understandable suspicion towards these interlopers exempt from overheads like road tax and filling-station expenses. But the regulations governing the operation of Hackney carriages apply equally to pedal power and the rickshaws are banned from competing for mobile trade.

One of Duesbury's tri-cycles, without passengers, recently stormed down from London to Brighton in seven hours, at an average speed of seven-and-a-half miles an hour. In city traffic, however, the average is less, and a £10 tour of the sights up the Mall to Buckingham Palace, along Birdcage Walk, through Parliament Square and back up Whitehall to Covent Garden takes about half an hour.

"We don't try to break records — we just tootle along. You can chat to the passengers as you go, and we try to do a bit of a commentary. Tourists from the East are particularly intrigued: they take a lot of photos. In fact, I think I could make more sitting still for photos than I do taking people for rides."

George Hill

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THE TIMES DIARY

Prescott's programme

The better class of gossip at the Labour Party conference in Brighton were yesterday convinced that John Prescott is within a mere 14 days of saying that he will stand against Roy Hattersley for the deputy leadership. The statement, which will end weeks of speculation about Labour's heavyweight energy shadow, could throw the party into almost as much turmoil for the next year as the 1981 Benn-Healey contest. Insiders believe that Bryan Gould will swiftly follow Prescott, supposedly his rival for the industry portfolio, into the fray. Gould, while saying he regrets the "unnecessary contest", will announce that he feels duty bound to offer the party a broader choice of candidates. And the betting for the final outcome, a year from now? Prescott knocked out on the first ballot and Hattersley - who has already succeeded in portraying Gould as an ideological backslider - winning the run-off.

Open wide

Lord Trefgarne, the defence procurement minister, has launched an investigation on a matter which is vexing him deeply - why Royal Navy officers have been forced to use tablespoons to eat their pudding. Senior men on HMS Bristol complained bitterly after being supplied the oversized silver cutlery by the RAF, which is in charge of all MoD stores. Trefgarne, who visited the ship 12 days ago, has now signalled the wide-mouthed fellows at the RAF to find out what happened. "The spoons were simply too large for Royal Navy mouths," he tells me. He was still awaiting a reply yesterday, but my spiced tale it was the Navy who ordered the wrong-sized spoons in the first place.

Lambeth line-up

The battle to succeed Mary Leigh as leader of the 21-strong Tory opposition group on Lambeth council is going to be fierce. One reason is that Leigh herself is likely to be a candidate. She resigned last week after having to use her casting vote to defeat a no-confidence motion on her leadership. Leigh, I am told, is regarded by local Conservatives as a wet and is expected to be opposed by John Berrow, the 23-year-old former chairman of the disbanding right-wing Federation of Conservative Students. Berrow has been a councillor for two years and has the support of about half of the Tory group, who support his forthright Thatcherism. The group will meet in a fortnight's time to elect its new leader - meanwhile the two rivals are refusing to comment on their candidature.

● Labour's newest national executive member, Ken Livingstone, is already getting the feeling he is not entirely welcome. So much so, that he was forced to ask veteran NEC member Tony Benn where exactly the new executive would be meeting yesterday.

Big tow

The Brighton conference has already proved expensive for Ann Clwyd, the junior women's rights spokesperson. She had to fork out £55 to recover her car, towed away from an illegal parking space by zealous south coast bobbies. Friends were later heard to mutter that this sort of thing never used to happen when Brighton was run by the Tories. Yesterday, however, Brighton council - which fell to Labour in the May elections - pointed the finger of blame directly at the constabulary. Since the beginning of September it has employed a private firm to tow away cars. By day three of the conference 52 cars had ended up in the pen.

BARRY FANTONI



Minus Havers

The sudden admission of Lord Havers to hospital for tests - he is expected to be there for two weeks and has cancelled official engagements accordingly - has created a small problem today. It is the official beginning of the legal year, which is traditionally celebrated with the Lord Chancellor's breakfast. The ceremony, which dates back to at least Charles II's reign, includes a service at Westminster Abbey followed by breakfast in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords. Next stop is the Law Courts with the top chief judge marching there through the streets, clad in black damask, gold lace and a train, with full-bottomed wig and carrying a three-cornered hat and gloves. His replacement, Lord Lane, will wear the more sombre trappings of the Lord Chief Justice: a scarlet robe and hood, complete with ermine cape. No wonder Havers feels indisposed.

PHS

A defence against nobbling

John Spencer assesses the possible ways of giving juries greater protection

Jury nobbling comes to light when, as on Tuesday, an attempted "nobbler" spills the beans to the judge. Such cases leave us wondering about the ones where it fails to come to light because the juror takes the used fivers, shuts up and votes for an acquittal.

A century and a half ago the scandal was not nobbling, but "packing". In political cases there were frequent allegations that people acting in the interests of the prosecution were making sure that only government supporters were on the jury panel. As a result of a few simple legal reforms in the early 19th century, packing largely ceased to be a problem. Is nobbling as easily curable?

Unfortunately, the only way in which nobbling could be completely eliminated would be to guard all juries 24 hours a day; however, there are some not too difficult ways by which the nobbler's life could be made considerably harder.

It obviously helps any nobbler who is capable of reading a telephone directory to know the juror's names. At present each juror is ceremoniously called by name when the jury is empanelled to try the case. The jurors' addresses as well as their names are available at the local Crown Court office to the lawyers involved in the case.

Nobody suggests that jury nobbling is part of the service which defence lawyers offer, but in

evitably there are cases where the list gets into the wrong hands. If the jury was kept anonymous the nobbler's task, although still possible, would be more public and hence more difficult. So why should this not be done?

The problem is that at present the lawyers on both sides have a good reason for knowing the juror's names and addresses. This is all they usually have, except for the juror's physical appearance, upon which to decide whether to challenge him. The name and address becomes all the more important to the defence, furthermore, if the Criminal Justice Bill takes away the right of peremptory challenge and all challenges are thereafter challenges for cause.

How else is the defence to discover if the juror is the alleged rape victim's uncle, brother or neighbour? If the jury became anonymous, it would be essential that potential jurors were questioned to discover if they had any connection with the case, or other reasons to be prejudiced about it.

In the US, where such questioning is done by the lawyers involved, the process is time-consuming and reckoned a worse abuse than the evil it was to cure. Perhaps we could have jury questioning without these problems if we made it the job of the judge.

It is also obviously helpful to a nobbler if there is a criminal or two on the jury to work on. It may have been generally desirable that the property qualification was abolished and virtually everyone between 18 and 65 was made eligible to serve, but a side-effect was to increase the chances of unsuitable people being called. Following several scandals the Juries Disqualification Act 1984 banned from jury service anyone who has ever received a prison sentence of five years or more, or any custodial sentence within the last 10 years, or a probation order within the last five years.

But this still leaves room for some convicted criminals on juries. Worse, there is evidence that through administrative errors disqualified persons are quite often called. We should try to render our juries more noble-proof, both by tightening the rules on who is eligible, and by seeing that those rules are enforced.

More drastic measures could be devised, but they would be controversial. One would be to alter the rule on majority verdicts. As a jury needs a 10-2 majority to convict, at present the nobbler prevents the conviction if he manages to nobble three. We could make his job harder if we reduced the majority. This is not

quite unthinkable. In Scotland, the jury of 15 may convict provided eight vote for his guilt.

Another measure is to move the place of trial. As nobblers are generally thought to be the defendant's friends and relations, life would be harder for them if trials were held away from their home base. Unfortunately, this would make life difficult for almost everyone else involved in the process.

A third idea is to keep a closer watch on what happens in the jury room by having the judge retire with the jury. This happens, for example, in France. However, as part of the popular appeal of juries in England is undoubtedly their ability to cock the occasional snook at the judge, it is almost inconceivable that this idea could be accepted.

Finally, and most controversially, we could remove jury trial from the types of case where improper pressure on the jury is most likely to be brought to bear. This is what has been done in Northern Ireland for the trial of terrorist offences. For England, however, it seems as far-fetched an idea as the jury retiring in company with the judge.

As the chairman of the Criminal Bar Association said yesterday, we clearly need some hard data on the extent of the problem of jury nobbling before we decide what, if anything, must be done to cure it. The author is a lecturer in law at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

Michael Binyon on the damning charge against the investigative reporter

Woodward in the dock

Washington

No accusation could be more damning to a proud newspaper and its prize-winning investigative reporter - or, by implication, to the entire American press - than the angry assertion at the centre of a new scandal in Washington: Bob Woodward is a liar.

The man who exposed the Watergate cover-up, who produced so much of the evidence that led to Nixon's downfall, now stands accused of faking a crucial bedside interview with William Casey, in which the dying director of the CIA admitted that all along he had known of the diversion of Iran arms money to the Contras.

Casey's widow accuses Woodward, the assistant editor for investigations at *The Washington Post*, of telling a flat lie. Doctors say the interview was medically impossible. Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, insists that Woodward never gained access to the hospital room where Casey lay. Other journalists - in an extraordinary break with normal professional solidarity - throw doubts on the interview and question Woodward's ethics and conclusions.

Even editors at *The Washington Post*, which has splashed extracts from Woodward's book on Casey all over the front page, now admit that the deathbed admission was "profoundly ambiguous" and was therefore rejected as lacking sufficient confirmation for a news story. "Call it by its right name: Woodwardgate," Casey's nephew said in a withering letter to the newspaper yesterday.

The charge is potentially devastating, not only because Woodward's many earlier revelations, that have so shaped American politics, may now come into question, but because they raise other disturbing issues of journalistic integrity, ethics, and the influence of the press.

If Woodward was convinced that in his encounter Casey, even semi-comatose, was conscious and telling the truth, why did he not inform the congressional investigating committee, which did not begin wrestling with Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North's contents until after Casey died?

In most countries the judgement and working methods of an individual journalist would matter little. But a storm has blown up in America for a number of reasons. First, the press is extraordinarily visible and influential, and its stars, especially the television correspondents who earn huge salaries, can make or break politicians - as President Nixon, Gary Hart, Joseph Biden and many others have found to their



The charges raise disturbing issues of journalistic integrity, ethics, and the influence of the press

cost. Among America's newspapers, *The Washington Post* is one of the best, with an enviable record of scoops and the ear of every politician in the country.

Secondly, in the fiercely competitive post-Watergate atmosphere, American newspapers vied with each other to uncover other scandals, to reveal as much dirt as they could find - in the private lives, policy decisions and secret dealings of those in power. Investigative journalism became the norm. Journalists became crusaders, with the more intrepid gaining the Pulitzer prizes. The Iran-Contra scandal demonstrated once again that *The Washington Post* had not lost the edge. Bob Woodward himself wrote 48 exclusive front-page stories over the past year, many of them revealing new aspects of the bizarre affair.

All this, of course, has led to considerable resentment and

envy. There are many people in the Reagan Administration who would welcome a chance to get even with the press, especially the *Post*. There are many other journalists who begrudge Mr Woodward his sources and his success, and who are slow to forgive his unrestrained *schadenfreude*.

Finally, however, the affair affects all American papers because it underlines the almost constitutional role of the press. In a country where the president cannot be held to account by Congress in the way a prime minister is by Parliament, the press is the only medium through which the electorate can demand accountability of the administration's chief executive. The freedom of the press is the first amendment to the US Constitution, and is fundamental to the American concept of democracy.

The press in turn takes its political role more seriously than

in almost any other country. This has never been more true than today; the Reagan Administration, sustained for so long by the media, was also nearly brought down by the media. And the alleged Casey admission goes to the very heart of the affair in which the press played the role of inquisitor.

But in the future over the Casey interview - which his family asserted could not have occurred as Mrs Casey and her daughter maintained a 24-hour vigil with the nurses at the bedside - other questions about Woodward are now being raised. He was the editor responsible for the paper's most egregious error - the publication of a completely fraudulent story by Janet Cooke, a reporter who claimed to have discovered a black eight-year-old heroin addict, and who was unmasked only when those reviewing her Pulitzer prize entry found that the university record she provided was false.

More recently, Woodward's ethics have been questioned over the fall of Gary Hart, who stayed in Woodward's house during one of his separations from his wife. *The Washington Post* did not deny that the evidence it put to Hart of his alleged association with another woman besides Donna Rice - which prompted his withdrawal from the presidential race - came from Woodward. While some journalists have asked why he protected Hart by not divulging the name, others have criticized him for betraying confidences.

The problem for Woodward as well as for many US journalists is what assurances should be given to sources in return for information. Woodward, who himself wonders why Casey should have talked to him some 48 times, admits that he had promised Casey not to use some of the information he was given, except in book form. Betraying sources is the cardinal sin of American journalism, and reporters have gone to prison to protect them. Woodward's own Watergate informant, Deep Throat, would never have spoken if his identity had been at risk.

The interdependence of politics and the press in the US inevitably forces these choices and compromises. One side tries to use the other to its own advantage. It is a merciless game. And when one side trips up, there is little of the gentlemanly understanding left. Usually it is the politicians who are trapped by the press. Only occasionally does the reverse happen. This seems to be one of those rare occasions.

The lesson for the British government is that while it is vital to hold on to the principle of confidentiality, there is some logic to the argument that insider books dealing with past operations of the intelligence agencies could be permitted provided a formal and not too flexible vetting had been carried out. There would then be less temptation for former officials to blow the lot from a shack in Tasmania.

Michael Evans

Defence Correspondent

Ronald Butt

Labour looks both ways

New movements and parties come into being in protest against things that are wrong in an existing state of affairs which the power-holders cannot or will not correct. This has been true of every political party that has arisen in Britain and of none more than Labour.

Socialism was invented as a 19th-century cure for the abuses of the new capitalism. It would not have existed if capitalists and society as a whole had more readily recognized that humanity has a social duty to act collectively, as well as an individual duty to act responsibly, in the interests of all.

There had been a growing acknowledgement of the need to legislate to remove the worst abuses of children, women and men working in factories. But it was always too little, too late. There was little disposition to accept that the social responsibility for maintaining the law and the defence of the realm must also apply to concern for the welfare of all individuals if the nation was to be politically healthy. Bad working conditions, paying workers a pittance and the lack of concern for what happened to them and their families when they were laid off led to the formation of the trade unions and to their attachment to the theory of socialism.

Socialism, however, was different from any other political movement because it offered to build something fundamentally new according to a theory and to a pre-existing design. That set it apart from everything that had gone before. Feudalism had evolved from an earlier more primitive society; capitalism had emerged from feudalism and features of one system overlapped the other. Nobody said "Let us have feudalism" or "Let us have capitalism". These systems evolved organically; they were never platonic absolutes.

But socialism was conceived as a perfect system able to override the flaws in human nature which corrupt other systems. It was in essence revolutionary and in its most logical application its exponents have been willing to overthrow the old order by disruption and force. Even in the Labour Party some would still like to do so. With its complete vision of a good society, socialism in its technical sense is a religion rather than a political solution. But whereas most religions operate through the individual, socialism offers a collective organization as the means for a good life.

The Labour Party was sent to Parliament by the unions to bring this society about by democratic consent. But it took half a century before it obtained majority government in 1945 since most people are healthily sceptical of total political solutions. It would probably not have attained power even then had it not earned a new acceptability by participating in the Churchill coalition, thus shedding the pre-war handicap of its opposition to rearmament by speciously appealing to a "collec-

tive security" which was not available. That posture struck most people as pusillanimous and has some comparison with today's unilateralist promise to spend more on conventional weapons.

The post-war Labour government injected a strong strain of socialism into the political system which was not popular and there was no going on with it. So in the Gaitskill-Wilson period a new model of social democracy, based on government-organized planning, was tried and failed. As the attempt collapsed into discredit, Labour was driven back towards primitive socialism and was more and more rejected by the voters, who do not want a society in which the individual is dependent on the state for everything that matters.

Nor do they wish to live under compulsion. They do not wish to be governed by the bureaucrats and party activists. They distrust Labour's instinct on defence and the law. Above all, they have rejected the collective bullying of the unions, which replaced that of the factory owner, in order to maintain mock jobs. They know the result is high costs which damage the collective well-being of the nation.

By coming into existence as a remedy, socialism identified a real illness. But the remedy offered was useless as a cure and had dangerous side effects which we are now trying to get out of our system. The achievement of socialism was to drive advanced and free societies to find a better cure, which was most notably developed in post-war Germany when a fresh start had to be made. The state must prescribe social obligations and criteria; it does not have to manage them or inhibit a free economy.

Mr Kinnock, like Gaitskill and Wilson before him, has now implicitly recognized that socialism is unacceptable and wishes to dedicate the party afresh to enterprise and affluence, but retaining planning and the state's virtual monopoly in meeting essential needs. It is hard to see what new solutions of this type can be evolved that are not a repetition of those which failed Labour before. But more fundamentally, it is an approach in which the majority of Labour activists do not believe. It robs them of their religious motivation and of the incantations which have given them political heat.

Ever since Labour has been a candidate for power it has been handicapped by having activists who believe one thing and leaders who know that political power can only be had by doing another. After Brighton it is more blatantly than ever a party pulled two ways as no other is. The capacity of Labour in power to sabotage its own government would be as strong as ever. That, however, does not mean that the Conservatives should feel easy that Labour has lost any prospect of power next time, a question which I hope to discuss next week.

however... Joseph Connolly

Torments of a tea boy

More and more school leavers want to work in publishing, I read: I hope they fare better than I did. I was 19, it was my first job, and I did that this mighty publishing house would entrust me with the licking of stamps (many were the evenings when I went home nursing a crick in the tongue).

Then, one day, my big chance arrived: Albert, the man who wheeled around the post and the tea, was going on holiday, and I immediately offered my services. Demonstrating my versatility, I reasoned, and they would probably appoint me editorial director before the week was out.

The trolley was a monstrously cumbersome thing that handled like a tank. It was surmounted by a huge and spluttering tea urn with a little brass tap, while the lower tiers were sectioned for letters, packages, multi-coloured forms and I discovered, cakes.

"The MD is most particular about his little 'fancies'," Gladys the caterer informed me. "One pink, one yellow at tea-time. Mornings he likes a nice Alice of Battenburg. Madeira and cup-cakes are for editorial and the buttered scone is for nice Mr Pilley in contracts. Production and sales get di'genti ves."

I swung off with the trolley, merely hanging on to stop the thing careering away altogether. In editorial a woman said, "You're not Albert" (not a lot got past editorial) and then asked for five teas, two madeiras, two cup-cakes and that scone over there. I started wrestling with the tap on the urn with one hand while trying to extricate a polystyrene beaker from a tightly impacted telescope.

"I am afraid," I apologised, "that the scone is for nice Mr Pilley in contracts." And then I shrieked my head off because suddenly there was tea gushing over my wrists - it was melting hot and I hopped around a good deal puffing out my cheeks like Thomas the Tank Engine. I poured some milk over it, and that helped a bit.

But you got no sympathy in editorial. The woman said, "Leave the DK 46s with the tea", which made about as much sense to me as it does to you. She then explained not very patiently that

pink forms were DK 46s for editorial, green were 101s for contracts and sales, while blue and yellow could be either MS Prod Copy, or else Pub 2s. The trolley hauled me back into the corridor and threw me through the door marked Contracts. Some secretary nicked a cupcake and then pipped up: "Where are our 101s?"

"101s? Ah yes - I have them here. Oh Lord - I must have left them in editorial. I have a few Prod Blue 46s, if they're any good to you? The yellow ones are very pretty."

Then some man or other who was about 8ft tall roared: "Where the blood hell's my scone?" and I deduced that this must be nice Mr Pilley.

"I'm awfully sorry but the lady in editorial said that if I didn't give her the scone she would lift me bodily and stuff me into the tea urn and leave me there to stew to death and I think she meant it."

"We'll soon see about that!" he intoned, and strode out of the room. I was getting awfully rattled now because nice Mr Pilley was in the corridor screaming at the woman in editorial and I had turned the tap on but couldn't turn the beastly thing off and the MD's "fancies" were getting carried away on a slide of tea and it was all dripping down into the DK 46s, 101s and MS Prod Copies - no saying nothing of the Pub 2s.

I toyed with the idea of crying my eyes out and racing home to get my mother to give me a note, but in the end decided upon dealing with the situation like an adult and an Englishman, and so babbled "sorry sorry sorry sorry sorry", but no one was listening because nice Mr Pilley now had the woman from editorial by the throat and was screaming, "I'll kill you, I'll kill you!" and the woman from editorial went a funny colour and croaked out: "You are no gentlemen, Mr Pilley!"

"Why don't we all calm down?" I raved, "and have a nice cup of... oh, no, we can't, I'm afraid - it all rather tends to be on the floor. Ha ha."

No one was awfully pleased. By the end of the week Albert was back - and, inexplicably, I had been passed over for the job of editorial director.

Drawing a blue line for secret agents

What is to be done with secret agents who reveal all? Should there be a new binding contract for all M15 personnel that threatens instant docking of pension rights if they breach the rules of confidentiality? And would it stop the likes of Peter Wright?

Employees of M15 and M16 are technically civil servants, and like the others are required to sign the Official Secrets Act when they join and when they leave. But after Kim Philby defected to Moscow, the then director-general of the Secret Intelligence Service decided that a new form of words was needed to give him the power to penalize any member of M16 who disgraced the service.

A document was drawn up called *Supplementary Declaration on Termination of Employment*. It contained the following words: "I understand that, if following my retirement I commit any act which, in the opinion of the head of the service, is deemed to be prejudicial to the interests of the service, I may be liable to forfeit my entitlement to any superannuation or other benefits arising from my employment."

However, even this apparently all-embracing clause would have to be fought over in court if an errant M16 man decided to oppose moves to withdraw his pension. M15 employees, by all accounts, do not have to sign such a contract, and now government lawyers are trying to work out what steps can be taken to dissuade and control security staff who want to rush into print.

A leak-proof system is impossible. The Wright case has proved that no government can legislate against a former civil servant who divulges information from a safe haven abroad.

Wright, however, had an axe to grind and his book was bound to be damaging to the authorities. Other ex-members of the intelligence services might bring out memoirs without damage to national security provided the government had a proper vetting system, a "blue pencil" procedure, to crase the most sensitive details but leave the narrative.

This kind of system already exists in countries like the US and Israel. All members of the CIA, for example, have to sign a "secrecy

agreement", which prohibits "without proper authorization" publication of material relating to the CIA. Four years ago Admiral Stansfield Turner, former CIA head, was ordered to heavily censor his book *Secrets and Democracy* when he appeared before the CIA Review Board. The board insisted, for example, on deleting all references to covert operations in Nicaragua.

The agency also tried in 1973 to stop a book, *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence*, by a former senior agent, Victor Marchetti, and an ex-State Department intelligence expert, John Marks. The authors were told to remove 339 passages. The order was challenged in the courts and all but 168 of the deletions were reinstated. One of the reinstated passages was a reference to a substance which made mud more slippery: the CIA considered dropping it on the Ho Chi Minh trail.

One former CIA agent, Frank Snopp, tried to bypass the review system and published a book about the last days of the US presence in Vietnam. The Supreme Court ordered him to

pay back all his profits. In Israel, there is a special committee which examines all books by past members of the intelligence services. Shmuel Beth and Mossad. After vetting by this committee manuscripts go before four ministers. In cases of the greatest sensitivity they are sent direct to the Prime Minister.

At the moment a former deputy director-general of Mossad, David Kimche, is writing his memoirs. His manuscript will go through the same rigid vetting process, but in the end a book will be published.

The lesson for the British government is that while it is vital to hold on to the principle of confidentiality, there is some logic to the argument that insider books dealing with past operations of the intelligence agencies could be permitted provided a formal and not too flexible vetting had been carried out. There would then be less temptation for former officials to blow the lot from a shack in Tasmania.

Michael Evans

Defence Correspondent

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MANAGERS TO NOTE

There will be many readers of the *Monopolies and Mergers Commission* report on British Rail in the South-east who will at once demand: privatize! Profit-seeking management would surely have to do better than this.

The enthusiast for rail — that surprisingly common bird who after 1,000 crushed journeys on a commuter train can see even a certain romance in trains — will light on the report's worries about level of investment in rolling stock, and take issue (with some justice) with under-capitalization caused by the Treasury's inability to see the track beyond Beckenham Junction.

The mere passenger, concerned above all with reliability of service, will decide that what matters is the practical management of a railway and better services on such notorious routes as Liverpool Street, Charing Cross and London Bridge. The report confirms the daily impression: the ideological long run can take care of itself; the question for now is improving the timing and the quality of rail journeys in the South-east.

Monopolies and Mergers Commission reports are not management consultants' analyses. Part of their purpose is to speak on behalf of customers as often denied — in parts of the private sector as well as more generally in the public — a chance to see their complaints being taken seriously by managers. The report shouts loudly about quality of service; it lays a heavy charge at British Rail's door when it alleges that the network has been covering up its record on punctuality of train arrivals — an essential performance measure. Its closest readers should be British Rail's hierarchy.

Because the report is fair-minded in identifying British Rail's success stories in the South-east, the contrast is all the more telling with those lines and those duties (like keeping carriages in a minimal state of cleanliness) in which it so manifestly does not come up to scratch. The very least that British Rail owes its public now is some sign that the managers who have been failing will be brought to book. The

ban of the public sector has been its inability to construct systems of management which guarantee continuous effectiveness, which mitigate against complacency buoyed by subsidy.

Communities have their complaints against booking clerks, restaurant car waiters, guards; but that adage of Napoleon about officers and men is applicable to the railways as to any hierarchical organization: there are no bad station porters, only bad station managers — though the adage does of course need adaptation in the face of the National Union of Railwaymen and the Amalgamated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. British Rail can never again afford the delays attending its introduction of one-man operated trains on the Bedford line.

The case for tampering with the ownership of British Rail has not been made. This document, moreover, reinforces the case for giving British Rail as much time as possible to plan its investment on track, signalling and rolling stock: Mr Paul Channon, the Transport Secretary, is given ammunition to put before the Chancellor in making his case over British Rail's external financing limit. This report makes the case for fresh thought about management, and if that is not forthcoming from Sir Bob Reid and his board, it will need to come from without.

Whatever the case for and against a change in British Rail's ownership, there is scope for franchising management functions within a nationalized industry (Mr Noel Hepworth of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy has some interesting thoughts on this). The test of management is straightforward. There is an audience which each day waits to be convinced — and is prepared to give the rail network a wide margin of leeway. British Rail will win hearts and minds as long as — when — the 7.05 from Faversham runs on time, and British Rail's explanation for any failure on the clock is prompt and convincing.

DEFICIT AND DEBT STILL

The annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in Washington will close today with the world looking remarkably similar to how it did at the end of last week. But it is useful for the world's finance ministers and central bankers regularly to meet face to face. Progress in financial diplomacy is not generally achieved in dramatic leaps but gradually, over many months' patient negotiation.

The most important development was President Reagan's decision to sign a law setting out a new programme for reducing the US budget deficit — an admirable statement of intent, and as the President told the IMF and Bank "a tough decision". But statement of intent is as yet what it remains. Reagan does not appear to have withdrawn his opposition to cutting defence spending or raising taxes. Without doing one or the other it is difficult to see how the political impasse on deficit reduction can be broken. Financial markets appear to have drawn the same conclusion and the dollar after a brief rally has sunk back.

Nevertheless "peer pressure" from the other major countries has almost certainly helped the Administration to face up to the need to cut the deficit and at the same time has provided a domestic political excuse for doing so. Mr Reagan used the occasion to call on the countries in balance of payments surplus to "find the political gumption" to play their part and restitute non-inflationary growth. He will not be able to cash that cheque until he delivers on cutting his own deficit. But inelegant though the process may be, the intermittent progress towards co-ordinating economic policies to reduce the imbalances in the world economy is a good deal more reassuring than no progress at all — provided, that is, that it does not raise the general level of inflation. Given that it is still desirable to reduce the average level of inflation world wide, and in view of the present trend in the

opposite direction, the obligation to adjust lies more heavily on the major deficit country than on the surplus countries. As the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said yesterday it is essential that co-ordination of policies avoids any drift towards higher inflation in the world as a whole.

The other major discussion point of the meetings has been the continuing problems presented by the huge burden of debt in many developing countries. Again, this week's meetings in Washington produced no miracle cure — in many ways they have been rather disappointing. But the first step in any negotiations is to identify the differences of view.

As far as the poorest countries are concerned a need for special treatment is now widely acknowledged. Ministers agreed on the principle of an increase in the IMF's Structural Adjustment Facility, which unlike other IMF lending is targeted on the poorer countries. But there are still sharp differences about who should pay for it. Nor is there any agreement yet on the amount of the increase.

Complementary concessions for the bilateral aid loans of the poorest countries, for which Mr Lawson had been lobbying, were also supported in principle so far as conversion of loans into grants and longer grace and repayment periods are concerned. But there was apparently no progress at all on the more difficult question of cuts in interest rates on the loans.

As to the much larger sums owed to commercial banks by the middle income countries it remains to be seen if the new proposals put forward by Brazil will prove an adequate basis for negotiation. There is no case for asking the taxpayer to bail the banks out of the consequences of their incautious lending policies in the past — especially now that the risk of a collapse of financial confidence has more or less evaporated.

MR GORBACHOV COMES BACK

So reports of Mr Gorbachov's demise were greatly exaggerated. His seven-week absence from the public gaze led to speculation over a heart attack, food poisoning and an appendix operation on his wife. He re-emerged this week looking tanned, relaxed and shimmer — very much someone back from holiday.

Whether he was telling the whole truth remains unclear. Pre-*glasnost*, Muscovite indifference to Western rumour would only have been expected. But Mr Gorbachov is a leader who has, by Soviet standards, sought the footlights.

When President Reagan is on holiday the White House goes to great lengths to reassure America and the world. "The President spent the morning chopping trees and clearing brush", its spokesman says solemnly each day. Film of the President on horseback, in cowboy shirt and stetson, is on the television news to greet Americans as they get back from work in the evening. The lack of information about the Gorbachov family holiday, by contrast, suggests that *glasnost* has not yet gone beyond office hours.

The speculation which his absence caused is no more than might be expected at any time. Brezhnev, Andropov and Chernenko all dropped out of public view shortly before their deaths, behind a smokescreen of diplomatic language attributing their absence to "a cold".

Mr Gorbachov may be a lot younger. Politically, he is if anything more vulnerable — given that he is widely believed to represent momentous change. The customary wave of speculation attending anything unusual in Moscow's still comparatively closed society was therefore sharpened this time by genuine concern.

How securely Mr Gorbachov has consoli-

dated his power in the Politburo is not known. He had a reputation as a reformer — in Russian terms — before becoming leader. The assumption is that his elevation met with the general approval of his contemporaries. Since then, he has certainly moved to blunt the most obvious remaining threats to his position.

But his policies have stirred up controversy. "There is no political opposition in the Soviet Union", Mr Gorbachov said this week — which is, in the Western sense, only too true. But there was a "braking system", he went on, which is applied by Russia's leaders, himself included.

In recent weeks there have been signs that some of his colleagues have been itching to apply the handbrake. A prominent figure during Mr Gorbachov's absence was Mr Yegor Ligachev, chief party ideologist, who while not necessarily an opponent of Mr Gorbachov, reflects a different emphasis.

Mr Ligachev, whose name has been linked with that of Mr Viktor Chebrikov, head of the KGB, as a leading opponent of change in the Kremlin, has made public speeches recently, in apparent defence of the Stalinist and Brezhnev eras. That he should do so is paradoxically a sign of Moscow's awakening appetite for debate. But it also confirms that *perestroika* (restructuring) is unlikely to proceed without impediment.

However imperfect the Soviet system may still seem under Mr Gorbachov, it is better than what went before. But the change is associated with one man. Any threat to that man is a reminder of the fragility of any new order he might be trying to create. That is why the Soviet leader, on returning to his in-tray, finds himself welcomed back with some relief in the West.

Taking care in the public schools

From the Headmistress of Felixstowe College

Sir, There are, no doubt, two methods of learning to swim, being thrown in at the deep end and receiving specialist instruction; the former, for all its dangers and casualties, seems to be the method applied by John Rae (Spectrum, September 23) in the areas of sex education and equipping girls for what is still, sadly, in so many ways a man's world.

He seems to be thinking of sex in a very narrow and short-term way. Such an attitude will do little, I fear, to stem the tide of family breakdown and the one-in-three divorce rate. Rather than rejecting or insisting on such a limited type of sex education, should not more schools be offering the sort of education for family life which we have developed throughout this school?

Yes, of course, it is impossible without excellent speakers and leaders from within and beyond the school — but we are blessed in having those; and it must certainly offer more to the youngsters than Mr Rae's "play safe and make sure you're in love" line. What a sad and secular "love" it is which excludes the faithfulness and commitment which must be the bedrock of a stable marriage eventually.

As for the two-year "crash course in the male" which he describes, I suspect that it is not this sixth-form experience which enables the girls to "survive and succeed" but their previous education — probably at a girls' school — which has given them the "confidence and thick skin" which seemed to be a prerequisite for his selecting them initially. Indeed, many specialists believe that girls will be better equipped to make a distinctive contribution to society by a sixth form such as ours which provides positions of responsibility and management training for

Yours confidently,
DAWN GUINNESS,
Headmistress,
Felixstowe College, Suffolk.

From the High Master of The Manchester Grammar School
Sir, On the matter of heads and the treatment of drugs, "Bad habits and a hard death" (Spectrum, September 21) John Rae is well adrift.

For the last four years I have been part of the directing staff for the Headmasters' Conference

Right to silence and quest for truth

From Lord Shawcross, QC
Sir, There is no answer to the question which Sir Frederick Lawton asks in his letter (September 24) except that the so-called "right to silence no longer rests upon the ethical foundation it once had but has become part of the practice which treats criminal trials as a kind of game in which the object is not, as in most foreign jurisdictions, to discover the real truth, but to ascertain objective truth in so far as the parties care or choose to present it, the function of the judge being that of an umpire to see that each side observes the rules and answer the question "How's that?"

Whilst it is possibly understandable that some lawyers whose main business it is to appear for defendants in criminal trials should wish to see such outmoded rules as the right to silence maintained in favour of their clients, it is time for ordinary citizens not too steeped in our ancient and sometimes outworn legal traditions to make up their minds whether these rules are now in any way necessary for the protection of the innocent.

Sir Frederick Lawton, with his immense experience first in practice and then on the Bench, thinks they are not. That great criminal judge, Mr Justice Stephen, took the same view. And the famous Liberal law reformer, Jeremy Bentham, called the rule against self-incrimination one of the most pernicious and irrational rules that has ever found its way into the human mind... if all criminals of every class had

a) the probable outcome in a civil court will be judgement against the employee for £100.
b) the probable outcome in a criminal court will be a verdict of guilty of a criminal offence and possibly imprisonment.
Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BEST,
Pethybrides & Best (Solicitors),
Midland Bank Chambers,
Torrington, Devon.

Telecom charges

From the Director of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation

Sir, Your report (September 21) on British Telecom's proposal to introduce charges for calls to directory inquiries and the comment of an OfTel spokesman, combined with the retiring chairman's comments on the service continuing to be free for blind and disabled people, raises some interesting issues.

The proposed charge will be a further deterioration in service and attempts to identify those who should receive a free service are fraught with difficulties, for to date no one has laid down guidelines for those who are "telephone directory" disabled.

Tate as benefactor

From Mr Christopher Tate
Sir, "Television choice" (September 22) on the ITV programme, *Art of Darkness*, asserted that Sir Henry Tate's art gallery "was financed by his sugar plantations".

Henry Tate, who was born in 1819, did indeed build and stock the great gallery on Millbank, as well as building public libraries in south London and hospitals elsewhere.

The company he founded, Tate & Lyle, first bought land on which sugar cane grew at Monymusk, in Jamaica, on November 10, 1937.

Council troubles in Liverpool

From Mr Tony Byrne

Sir, I am writing with reference to your report (early editions, September 23) entitled "Liverpool's expelled leader forecasts new riots".

Social conditions in Liverpool are indeed appalling. The treatment meted out to 47 councillors, who did much to improve these conditions, is also a disgrace. The blame for these circumstances lies, firstly, in the massive drain of jobs from the city; secondly, in the housing conditions; and thirdly, in the continuous drain of resources from local government.

Under our administration the city council was the only major employer to maintain levels of employment. We built 4,800 houses, rehoused 6,300 families and spent £10 million on the fabric of our schools. Politically, we reduced the Tory vote to 17 per cent at the last general election. We believe that the Labour Party has the support of the people.

I chaired the meeting to which your report refers. Nobody was personally attacked or abused.

The 47 Labour councillors concerned acted on behalf of the Labour movement in full con-

Second edition
From Mr G. M. Tamas
Sir, I am convinced you will receive with pleasure the news of perhaps the greatest compliment ever paid to *The Times*. A few days ago, a small underground publishing venture operated by dissidents belonging to Hungary's democratic opposition launched a series consisting of selections from *The Times*, in translation.

In the first issue Hungarians can read Bernard Levin's article on Gorbachov from March 9, Richard Basset's piece on Causescu from February 27, Bernard Levin's *feuilleton* against hanging from March 31, excerpts from the debate on the same issue in the House of Commons from April 2 and Philip Webster's comment from the next day, ending with Rodney Cowton's article on defending butterflies along the M40 from April 4.

The anonymous editors of the selection say in their foreword that their aim is to offer a lesson in working parliamentary democracy. One should not forget that these writings from *The Times* are printed in *sanzitad* by selfless people without any payment and at a considerable personal risk. I can only congratulate you for the not so indirect praise you have been given.

Faithfully yours,
G. M. TAMAS,
Rosenberg házaspár u. 23,
Budapest 1054,
Hungary,
September 6.

Can your readers offer advice to my daughter on how to prepare for this intriguing challenge?
Yours faithfully,
I. A. HAWTIN,
Carroll House,
Plumtree, Nottinghamshire.

Ozone layer

From Lady Willink
Sir, My aerosol can of furniture polish, along with many other similarly packaged products, does not display a list of ingredients so that I cannot tell whether the propellant gas is CFC (chlorofluorocarbons) or not.

I understand this is the one that attacks the ozone layer. If this is correct, what are we doing about boycotting such goods?
Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH WILLINK,
20 North Grove, N6,
September 21.

No laughing matter

From Mr John C. Kitchen
Sir, The letter from Dr Elgin (September 24) prompts me to enquire if we really know the true extent of the money that is being wasted on these computer-induced multiple mailings.

I have received from the Royal Life Fund as part of their unit trust megalaunch 14 separate but identical circulars.

It is of no surprise to me to learn that the launch is costing £5.9 million.
Yours faithfully,
J. C. KITCHEN,
12 Bushfield Road,
Albrighton, Staffordshire,
September 25.

Back in time

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Sir, The date 1.10.1987 is an extremely rare date and as such, I think, one to encourage us to write any outstanding letters. It reads — in reverse order — 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. Long years ago, 2,1101 afforded date buffs a similar excitement. Make the most of it, and let posterity await with anticipation: 3,1211, and its 11, 12, 13 reversal.

By way of comfort, even before four years have passed, along will come 19,9191 to provide us with a very nice palindromic date. All is not lost.

Yours truly,
CLIFFORD WARREN,
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Gwent,
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Sans culottes

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Council troubles in Liverpool

From Mr Tony Byrne

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September 27.

sultation with the Liverpool District Labour Party, local authority trade unions and the people of the city. The responsibility for meeting the penalties imposed lies with the Labour movement as a whole. Yours faithfully,
TONY BYRNE (former chairman, finance and strategy committee, Liverpool City Council),
20 Britannia Avenue,
Liverpool 15,
September 28.

From Mr Tony Mulhearn
Sir, The thoughts of John Hamilton [former leader of Liverpool City Council] on Derek Hutton suggest he has allowed personal animosity to cloud his political judgement.

As to the accusation that I "started the assault" on him, I find this truly incredible. During a speech at the meeting (on September 21) of the 47 debarred councillors, I referred to a [local] newspaper article in which John Hamilton was quoted as saying some would get away "scot free".

I challenged John to name names, and that if he had been misquoted to ask the *Liverpool Echo* to publish a retraction. Some four or five other people then spoke before Derek Hutton. At no time did John Hamilton indicate that he wished to speak. Every opportunity was given to him to reply; he did not.

Far from it being a personal attack on him, it was an effort to dispel the illusion being deliberately fostered by the enemies of the 47 that some debarred councillor has arranged their affairs to save themselves from bankruptcy. I can assure you this is not the case.

Yours faithfully,
TONY MULHEARN (former councillor, Liverpool City Council),
107 Cheshwood Avenue,
Liverpool 16,
September 28.

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 1 1901

A rare example of criticism of journalists from the profession itself

THE NEW YORK PRESS.
(From Our Special Correspondent lately in America.)

As I put my feet on the quay and landed in America from the Celtic I was accosted by an intelligent-looking young man, who raised his hat and said, "Mr —, I should be very glad to have your views on America." With becoming modesty I explained that I should require at least 24 hours' residence before coming to a definitive opinion on the whole subject. "But at least," he said, "you must have been shocked by the news of the attempt on our President." I replied that I was naturally very much shocked at the outrage. The next morning in a leading journal of New York I read, in characters of a size which you will not allow me to reproduce, first my own name, then "His first words on landing," then "His inexpressible horror at outrage on President," and then followed about a third of a column in which on the whole I was generously treated, for if it said much that I had not said, it said nothing with which I disagreed. On another occasion I was "begged" by an interviewer so dexterously that I think it should be recorded to his credit. He was an intelligent and retiring young man; by a card he "extended the courtesies of the New York —," and begged the honour of an interview. I explained firmly but courteously that I had nothing to say and could answer no questions. He said he was sorry as that prevented him from asking the single question he had intended to ask. I reflected that one question which I was not bound to answer could do no harm, and my curiosity prompted me to ask him what it was. "I had intended," he said, "to ask you whether you considered that the assassination of President McKinley was due to the toleration afforded to Anarchists by England." The proposition was so preposterous that I blurted out an indignant disclaimer before I realized that I had been caught out. I have no doubt that a startling account of the interview appeared the next day, and my only consolation is my firm conviction that the ingenious youth would have produced it, even if I had said nothing, for the interviewer often has no hesitation in telling you with a frankness that has an almost irresistible charm that the interview has to be printed, whether you contribute to it or not...

The English journalist, whatever he may do, professes to be seeking after facts — the drier and duller those facts the more likely he is to get a reputation for depth and accuracy. He knows that if his statements prove incorrect he will be contradicted, and he knows that his editor does not like a contradiction of what appears in his column. He has, moreover, a healthy fear of the law of libel, which tends to curb even exaggeration. As a result his imaginative powers are allowed no play; they get blunted for want of use, and perhaps that is why the English journalist is regarded as something of a bore who requires facts and is not to be put off by vague generalities...

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HEALTH

Pregnant – and happy about it?

Whether or not David Alton's bill to cut the abortion limit from 28 weeks to 18 weeks becomes law, Britain's biggest abortion agency outside the NHS will undoubtedly still be in business. The British Pregnancy Advisory Service celebrated its 20th birthday this year, just four months before the Abortion Act reaches its 20th birthday.

It was the particular lack of enthusiasm in the West Midlands for the newly liberalized abortion laws in 1967, that spurred members of the Abortion Law Reform Association to form a charity to serve women in the area who would otherwise still have had to resort to the dubious skills of back-street abortionists, or pay dearly at private clinics. Diane Munday, BPAS public relations officer and one of its founders, recalls the prevailing attitude: "We were hearing comments like the one from a professor of gynaecology, who stated 'Whatever the law says, we will not murder little babies in Birmingham'."

BPAS has grown from a small charity with modest offices in Birmingham, to a country-wide organization with 20 centres and five nursing homes offering a range of services from infertility counselling to reversed sterilization, and an

unimpeachable record for safe abortions.

But things have not changed that much in 20 years. Today, only 6 per cent of abortions are carried out under the NHS in Birmingham. There will be fewer still if David Alton's bill is passed. And Munday, for one, also foresees the return of illegal abortions on a large scale. "There are more people today with a knowledge of abortion technique than there were in 1967, so there will be £10 to £20 abortions provided."

Munday is an outspoken woman who says her views on David Alton and his bill are not suitable for publication. The bowdlerized version runs as follows: "I am sad and angry in equal quantities that a young, unmarried man with a comfortable income should make a decision adversely affecting thousands of families."

Now that a fetus may be viable at 23-24 weeks there are many who would sympathize with Alton's desire to revise the existing Act, if not his wish to make all abortions after 18 weeks illegal. Munday agrees that we should be moving with the times, but thinks campaigners would be better employed in ensuring that late abortions were not needed rather than forbidden.

"Ideally abortion should be a matter between a woman and her doctor in the first three months, but because of the

restrictions in our law and the rigid procedures, many women are forced into late abortion. If we move with the times, and make fewer restrictions in the first three months, we will immediately reduce the need for many later abortions.

'Abortion should be a matter between a woman and her doctor in the first three months'

"No woman wants an abortion – even less a late one. Nobody wants to see a viable fetus being aborted. The existing law forbids it, in that in practice there is a 24-week limit. BPAS voluntarily operated the 24-week limit before an agreement was made with the DHSS in 1985. An 18-week limit will mean a definite bar at 16 weeks. Gynaecologists

say this, and certainly BPAS would do this."

One fifth of all women having abortions after the 20th week were originally medically referred before the 12th week, Munday says, and she believes that many abortions are delayed either deliberately or through NHS procedures. "For example, a woman goes to her doctor at six weeks having missed a second period. She should come back the next month (because early abortions are best carried out after eight weeks), by which time the woman is 10 weeks pregnant. The doctor refers her to

the local hospital, and she may have to wait up to five weeks for an appointment. Even then, there may be a week's delay for this to go through. And then a woman can be told, 'Sorry, we don't do abortions after 12 weeks at this hospital' – many hospitals do this."

She points out another reason why many women have late abortions: the fact that they have to wait 16 weeks for amniotic screening to detect abnormalities. "Some screening can be done using the chorion villus method much earlier in the pregnancy, but the test is available in few cases, and does not screen for certain conditions. It is still true that a majority of women don't know they have a handicapped fetus until 21 weeks. Results of an amniocentesis can take up to four weeks to come through."

Half of the women who seek private abortions through BPAS are referred by their GP, Munday says. "Because they know their patients have a better chance of an early abortion through us. We also get menopausal women, because their doctors don't believe they are pregnant when they miss a period. We get young girls who don't want the family doctor to know, and women in small villages who want to be discreet, as well as women in local hospitals where they know the staff."

"And of course many of the most

vulnerable are those who come late, because they have been misled about through the NHS."

Most of the abortions which BPAS carried out in 1986 were performed between the ninth and twelfth week of pregnancy; vacuum aspiration is the most common method up to 12 weeks; if a woman is over 12 weeks, some doctors prefer to wait until 16-17 weeks for the induction method.

Inevitably, the agency has often been at the centre of controversy. There was an injunction over a man fighting an abortion; and a report to the Department of Public Prosecutions when BPAS first offered post-coital contraception.

Munday still believes that the change 20 years ago was a great step for society and that all the evidence shows that the provisions of the 1967 Act have worked well. If this latest bill does become law, those it will affect most, she says, will be the very young. "They will be the ones having handicapped children. Those with money and knowledge will be able to buy safe, legal, early abortions. More women who can afford to do so will avoid the NHS, in order to avoid delays, and some will scrape together the £150 as best they can. In the last two decades, women have grown to expect that they will control their fertility."

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Standing on their own feet

In Budapest a remarkable institute is successfully training handicapped children. Now its ideas are coming here

Three weeks ago, everyone other than her parents and Dr Maria Hari of Budapest thought eight-year-old Dawn Rogers was helpless. She had suffered irreversible damage to her nervous system at birth, and was incapable of walking or standing. When I saw her last week at the Peto Institute for Conductive Education in Budapest, where Dr Hari is the director, she was triumphant and her mother jubilant: after 10 days' training, Dawn was standing unaided.

In a different classroom in the five-storey institute, another British child, four-year-old Sebastian Clarke, had a broad grin on his face as he staggered towards me. He was under 2lb at birth and suffered four cerebral haemorrhages while in a premature baby unit, which left him with cerebral palsy (a spastic). After assessment at the age of two by local paediatricians in Birmingham, his parents were told that he would never walk

or have a socially acceptable intellect. They refused to accept this verdict, and four months later arranged for him to go to the Peto institute.

Initially Sebastian's training at the institute, and the living expenses of the parent who accompanied him, were paid for by local benefactors; now Birmingham council has supplied the £13,000 needed to fund Sebastian's one-year stay in Budapest, which is considerably less than it would cost to care for him at home in Birmingham.

Dawn and Sebastian are only two of the thousands of children suffering from cerebral palsy or spina bifida who have been helped by conductive education at the institute, where training combines aspects of physiotherapy, teaching, medicine and what used to be known in paediatric wards as TLC (tender loving care). Of the 4,948 children who have passed through the institute since the sixties, 3,657 have graduated to an ordinary school or to a job.



One rung at a time: early learning at the Peto Institute in Budapest, whose pupils currently include 35 British children

In Britain, assessment of such children is commonly performed by local paediatricians in conjunction with physiotherapists, social workers and the local department of education, who then decide what treatment and care may be applicable. The result, as in Sebastian Clarke's case, may be the recommendation of specialist physiotherapy for only an hour or two a week.

Training at the Peto institute is incorporated into everyday life, so that the children become immersed in it. Many are boarders. Their dormitories are attached to classrooms and living areas, so that learning never stops. The atmosphere is one of cheerfulness, humour and hope.

The institute was started by Dr Andreas Peto, who taught that children with motor difficulties who were suffering from some types of spina bifida would achieve totally unexpected goals if they could have their self-esteem boosted by being encouraged to help themselves to pass apparently unattainable milestones.

He was certain that one of the problems was the separation of education and physiotherapy into two distinct disciplines, and that a holistic approach was needed. He taught the children to carry out the complex actions which are of everyday use and which require the interplay of many muscle groups – standing, walking, putting on shoes or getting dressed. He found that as the children succeeded, their successes stimulated them to even greater endeavour.

When he died Dr Hari, his pupil and confidante, took over. Now in her fifties, she was a dancer and PT instructor before qualifying as a doctor and undergoing three years' specialist training in rheumatology.

When asked to analyse the reasons for the institute's success she suggests that assessment of the children and of the conductors is all-important. The child is now seen by a panel of experts including paediatricians, neurologists and a neurosurgeon. After the initial examination, the patient is repeatedly re-assessed during the next three months.

THE BRITISH CONNECTION

This month the Birmingham Institute for Conductive Education will be sending the first British trainees to the Peto Institute, for the four-year conductor's course.

After a visit to the Peto Institute in 1984, Mr Kenneth Clarke, then at the DHSS, asked for information on similar schemes in Britain. Civil servants were told by the Spastics Society that conductive education was proceeding apace at its own residential schools.

But on its own admission, the society has only "adapted" conductive education to a British, multi-disciplinary context – it uses teams of physiotherapists, teachers and other experts instead of individual staff trained in all these disciplines.

The institute hates to reject a child and accepts between 50 and 60 per cent of those sent to it. However, if assessment reveals uncontrolled epilepsy or diabetes, severe or increasing hydrocephalus, or an IQ which is so low that the child is unable to respond to commands or react to parents, it is felt unlikely that the child will benefit from the course.

Selecting conductors for the four-year training course is equally important. Dr Hari says that they should have warm personalities and an agreeable appearance, so that children can easily relate to them; they should move easily and gracefully, as much of the child's training is about movement; they must be capable of

developing an ear for music, also important for the training, and they must have a natural aptitude for teaching.

It is very different from the British situation, where the sight of a converted minibus collecting spastic children from their homes, and delivering them to special schools for the day, is a depressing feature of early morning life.

But Dr Hari has recently started co-operating with the Institute of Conductive Education in Birmingham, which embraces her views. They will select 10 potential conductors to go to Budapest to start training. Over the next four years, this group will divide its time between the two cities and some of Dr Hari's conductors. In the future it seems that the Budapest institute will become an international training centre, but for the moment Britain enjoys a privileged position; over the past year 120 British children have visited the institute, and at least 35 are being taught there now.

Doctors realize that the pattern of neurological disease in small children varies from country to country, and depends perhaps as much as anything on the care which the premature infant receives, in some countries with highly sophisticated neonatal units, grossly damaged children survive, whereas elsewhere they would have died. But if I was a parent of a child with cerebral palsy, I would want Dr Hari's opinion before I assigned my child to the minibus run.

Dr Thomas Stuttard

MEDICAL BRIEFING

In training

Victorian school-mistresses who believed that if their charges were less clothed and threw themselves with vigour into playing lacrosse and hockey, then they would not suffer from premenstrual symptoms, may have been right after all. Dr Jerilyn Prior, of the University of British Columbia, has produced statistics which show that women athletes suffer less from breast tenderness, depression, abdominal bloating and all the other troubles associated with the premenstrual syndrome once they start their training programme. Dr Prior feels that the explanation may lie not with oestrogen levels but with the reduced amounts of endorphins which are found premenstrually, an imbalance which would be redressed by the increased exercise taken during training.

Colour clash



What do the Emperor Anastasius, Alexander the Great and old English sheepdogs have in common? They all suffer from heterochromia, the condition in which the irises of the eyes are different colours. But Dr M. Baralster, a consultant geneticist, writes in the *BMJ* that heterochromia is nearly always benign. Parents are often worried when they notice the condition and are likely to be even more concerned when their GP immediately suggests hearing tests. There is a rare association between different coloured irises and deafness, which is due to Waardenburg's syndrome. Knowledge of this association usually sticks in GP's memories from their student days, but most of them also forget that in this syndrome the children usually have white forelocks and unusually far apart eyes.

Big benefits

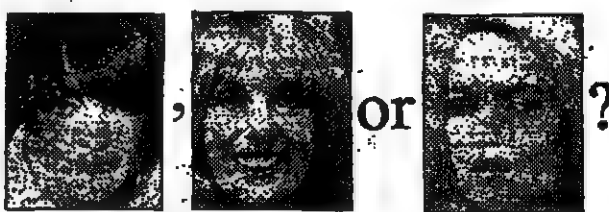


Women who are overweight may be more likely to suffer from heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, arthritis, varicose veins, thrush and even some forms of cancer, but at last doctors have found that they may have one advantage: they are less liable to have attacks of cystitis. *Pulse* magazine reports a study of the case histories of more than 17,000 women by Professor Maria Vesey of Oxford University. His research has shown that there is a statistical relationship between the number of urinary tract infections a woman has and her weight. The increased oestrogen levels which are found in fat women probably protect the delicate mucosal lining of the urethra and bladder; low levels of oestrogen predispose to urinary and genital tract infections.

T. S.

WHO SAID:

"Every time he buys me a present, I'm sure that he must have done something"



Every day next week, *The Times* serializes Naim Attallah's book of interviews with remarkable women

Our attitude to conservation wasn't born yesterday

Long before it was fashionable to do so, Country Life took up the cause of conservation, both of the land and of the historic properties and sites upon it. It is a fight we have continued ever since.

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proportion. And so, because more influential people read us than any other single country magazine, what we have to say about conservation is considered, noted and acted upon.

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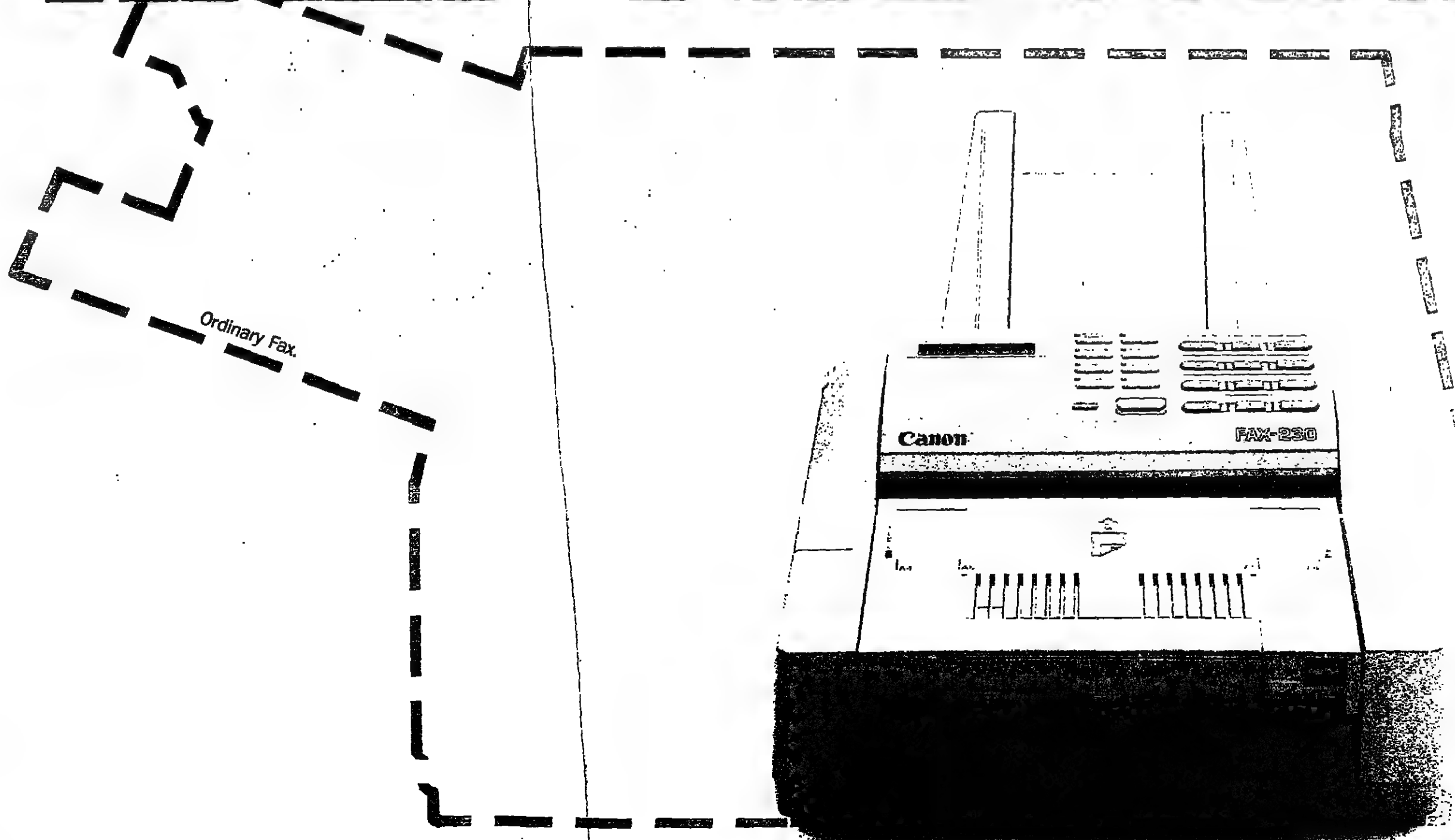
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Y
ER GOLDM
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mer protection

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

BIRTHS

CARTER - On September 28th 1987, to Martin and Christine, a son, James Alexander, 7lb 10oz.

ELVIN - On September 28th 1987, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

EMLEY - On September 28th, to Judy and Stephen, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

GARDNER - On September 28th, to Emma and Richard, a daughter, Emily Rose, 7lb 10oz.

JONES - On September 28th, to Julie and John, a son, James John, 7lb 10oz.

LEWIS - On September 28th, to Debbie and Neil, a son, James Neil, 7lb 10oz.

LONG - On September 28th, to David and Jane, a son, James David, 7lb 10oz.

MAYNOR - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

MATHSON - On September 28th, to Brenda and Gary, a daughter, Emily Rose, 7lb 10oz.

MCDONALD - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

MILLER - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

MORRIS - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

MURPHY - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

NEWMAN - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

REYNOLDS - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

RYAN - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

SAUNDERS - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

STEWART - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

TAPP - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

UNDERHILL - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

WATSON - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

WILLIAMS - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

WILSON - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

WRIGHT - On September 28th, to James and Christine, a son, James Stephen, 7lb 10oz.

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THE ARTS

Identity crisis

Stephen Paul Spencer, a petty criminal from Huyton, has been arrested three times for different armed robberies and acquitted twice. Third time unlucky, he is currently serving eight years for allegedly relieving a supermarket of its takings.

With the help of new witnesses, expert opinion and the BBC's *Rough Justice* (BBC1) persuasively argued that Mr Spencer's conviction was, at best, unsafe. Six foot four inches tall, and with striking red hair and a broken nose, he would seem to be the unlikely candidate for mistaken identity — the only evidence against him at his trial.

TELEVISION

Even without its crusading appeal, *Rough Justice* would still be an exemplary series, taking its brief with scrupulous seriousness and offering cogent narratives which directly address the problem in hand. The thrust of last night's case study was the unreliability of identity parades.

But the real cause for disquiet in the Spencer case is surely the attitude of the police: as long as they believe that any "body" is better than no "body" at all, they will continue to round up the usual suspects and justice will continue to be seen to be done.

Further misjudgments were unveiled in the first part of *Antenna* (BBC2), a new series which could teach *Horizon* a thing or two about pace and presentation. The body in question here was a case of cannibalism — the practice of eating human flesh because you want to rather than because your plane has crashed in the Andes. In a welcome piece of debunking, the anthropologist William Arens examined the evidence and concluded that cannibalism is a traditional racial slur to rank alongside, say, incest or monorchidism. It is always other people who are guilty.

Martin Cropper

The fallen Angel

CINEMA

Angel Heart (18)
Leicester Square Theatre
La dolce vita (18)
Everyman
Burglar
Metro

When a film's main characters are called Harry Angel, Louis Cyphre, Epiphany Proudfoot and Margaret Krusemark, no-one should expect a bland, quiet time. *Angel Heart*, in this respect, does not disappoint. This tale of a down-at-heel detective's search for a missing crooner thrusts its hero into a series of New Orleans murders featuring gouged-out organs and scalded heads, not to mention voodoo rites with a chicken. Mickey Rourke is the detective, Harry Angel, scraping a living on divorce suits and such in the mid 1950s. At first he displays Philip Marlowe's cheek, striking a match on a dead man's shoes, but the escalating corpses soon scare him. A fat fee offered by the mysterious Louis Cyphre (Robert De Niro) in a beard left over from *The Mission* keeps him on the track of his prey — a no-good singer called Johnny Favourite who seemingly vanished after retiring with injuries from World War Two. The story, based on a thriller by William Hjortsberg, becomes trashier and noisier as the minutes and bodies mount.

No-one should also expect a restful time from a film directed by Alan Parker, the angry scourge of British film culture, here making his fourth American production. The property spent a decade in various hands — Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman and John Frankenheimer among them — but there is nothing second-hand about Parker's treatment. He wrote his own script, paying homage to the hard-boiled thrillers of American cinema and fiction. The cutting, as usual with Parker, is nervous and rapid, the photography dark and hard-edged, nudging the audience with repeated shots of whirling fans or black-and-white patterns of light and shade from an antique lift's grill doors. Dramatic effects are outside and brutal: a love-making scene, intercut with Angel's nightmare vision of dripping blood, ran foul of American censors.



Facing the facts: Harry (Mickey Rourke) catches up on the latest murder

The latest private eye pays homage to Marlowe, but this blood-soaked tale falls well short of the Hollywood classics, reports Geoff Brown

and Parker subsequently removed 10 seconds. For international distribution the seconds have been restored, though we hardly needed such a bludgeoning reminder about Angel's mental condition.

The combination of lurid material and Parker's sirenous style is not a pretty one. The film lurches ponderously over its two-hour span when it should write sinuously. The performances just about keep us watching. Mickey Rourke almost makes us forget we have seen his subtle-chinned loner before, and Robert De Niro's few scenes shiver with that cool, quirky rhythm that only De Niro can provide.

"By 1965, there'll be total depravity!" observes one of the ladies

after the concluding orgy in Fellini's *La dolce vita*, first released in 1960 and now revived after a long absence in a sparkling new print. Goodness, what would he say about 1987? The film retains the look and weight of a classic, though the passage of time has inevitably eroded its shock impact, which once stirred the Vatican to attempt a ban and caused a woman to spit in the director's face.

Fellini himself painted modern society with far more noise and grotesquerie in subsequent films; and for all its swirls of fantastic images, like the opening shot of a helicopter bearing a statue of Christ across Rome, *La dolce vita* keeps one foot in the neo-realist camp. This is Fellini

just before he started to get out of hand.

At the centre of the bustling, three-hour canvas stands the journalist Marcello, a part tailor-made for Marcello Mastroianni. He sees the absurdity and feels the boredom, yet cannot break away from the daily round of parties, mistresses, picking up gossip at the Via Veneto cafes, and chasing silly stories with the paparazzi.

Fellini sends Marcello on a quest for superior values. The Church offers a phoney miracle in a dismal field, soon swamped by rain and the media circus; family life fails the test when his father visits and makes a sad play for a night-club tart; an intellectual friend escapes his own sterile life by suicide. At the end, drunk and weary, Marcello staggers into the dawn with other party-goers, to be met on the beach by a monstrous dead fish. Fellini uses the final seconds, though, for the fresh face of an innocent, gesticulating girl.

It is the sprawling fish, however, that lingers in the mind; like his hero, the director is magnetized by the spectacle of human folly. This is particularly apparent in scenes with Anita Ekberg, perfectly cast as an impossibly voluptuous movie star. Fellini choreographs her whirlwind tour of St Peter's dome and assorted night spots with delicious, innocent abandon. Twenty seven years later, *La dolce vita* remains essential viewing — energetic, stimulating, a feast for the eyes and mind.

Thanks to the Soviet Union's winds of change, punks and drug addicts have emerged from the shadows in films tackling the reality of contemporary youth. For Western viewers the topic is nothing new, and there is a danger in applauding these Soviet "problem" films just because of their novel provenance. *Burglar*, briefly mentioned last week by David Robinson, stands out from the crowd through the bright, sympathetic eye of its young director, Valery Ogorodnikov. There are times when he reminds us of early Milos Forman in his kindly treatment of society's flotsam and the parade of quaint hopefuls auditioning their songs at the local community centre.

This is an untidy film: the handheld camera sometimes sways like a drunkard, and scenes could be pruned with advantage. But Ogorodnikov and his colleagues still bring off a convincing portrait of teenagers almost pushed into punk clothes and music by the drab official culture.



Phantasmagoria partners: Michael Small with Anita Griffin

Trick or treat?

DANCE

Phantasmagoria
Birmingham

To judge by the enthusiastic whistling and shouting from the back of the Hippodrome Theatre at its first performance, Robert Cohan has hit the right note at least for young audiences with *The Phantasmagoria* for London Contemporary Dance Theatre.

The show falls into two contrasting parts, plus a longish interval. In the first half, with choreography mainly by Cohan, the interest is carried chiefly by trick effects. The most striking of these comes just before the intermission, with Patrick Harding-Irmer suspended inside a series of interlocking circles which rotate different ways.

He is the protagonist also of an episode about the victim of some monstrous unseen spider. The rest of this part is decidedly disjointed, starting with Pandora and her box of horrors, and going on to an episode in which Michael Small, as Perseus, quickly overcomes the seductively red-faced Medusa of Charlotte Kirkpatrick and chops her head off. Then comes a series of increasingly irrelevant epi-

sodes which reach their climax with a line-up of American footballers, high-stepping cheerleaders, and boxers competing inside what appears to be enormous condoms.

Nadine Baylis's trick costumes and scenery, include some mirrored boxes, a four-legged man, and Frankenstein's monster carrying a beautiful victim in his arms. It is Baylis's handsome and effective high-tech scenery which chiefly gives the evening an appearance of unity in spite of its episodic nature — rather more than Barrington Pheloung's eclectic and often rowdy score.

In part two, Baylis's costumes become more glittery to fit Tom Jobe's set of punchy if not very subtle dances dedicated to various bed friends and heroes. The sequence of greatest impact in this half is the one in which Kirkpatrick impersonates Maria Callas in tragic mood.

The Phantasmagoria looks very lavish, with multiple costume changes for all the dancers. It may well be that its fragmented structure will particularly appeal to those young audiences whose span of attention is very brief — presumably as a result of growing up watching television.

John Percival

CONCERTS

ASMF/Marriner
Festival Hall

This excellently performed concert, given by the orchestra and chorus of the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, was poorly attended. The reason, unfortunately, was obvious. The potential audience fought shy of what it probably thought was an unknown work, Mozart's *David penitent*, despite the reassuring presence beside it of Haydn's wondrous *Harmonies*.

The title of the Mozart, it is true, hardly appears frequently on the billboards, though that is no reason to avoid anything. Even those willing to hear only what they know (one wonders how they know anything) would have been duly satisfied, for *David penitent* is nothing other than the C minor Mass, or most of it, sung to different

words — Italian ones — plus a pair of *coloratura* arias for tenor and soprano inserted for good measure.

In that guise, the music of the Mass works well. The insertions, however, do seem strangely out of place, even archaically florid for 1785, when Mozart completed his adaptation. Arleen Auger, sounding a touch below par, made a bold charge at the new soprano aria, "*Fra l'oscura ombra funesta*".

In the tenor addition, "*A te, fra tanti affanni*", the sturdily impassioned voice of Keith Lewis perhaps needed a lighter rhythmic touch, though Elizabeth Gale, back on familiar territory in "*Lungi le cure ingrate*" (otherwise the Laudamus te), sang radiantly.

Lewis and Auger also took part in the Haydn, making, with the contralto Catherine Denley and the bass Stephen Roberts, an ideally balanced and responsive team.

Stephen Pettitt

ECO/Gibson
Barbican

The extraordinary decision of Victor Hochhauser to hire a chamber orchestra for the first prize-winning concert of the Leeds International Piano-forte Competition deprived London audiences of the chance to hear this year's winner, Vladimir Ovschinnikov.

The English Chamber Orchestra had tied up a neatly classical programme of Haydn and Mozart. Ovschinnikov, keyed himself up for the Rachmaninov that had won him first prize; and the twins did not meet.

So the engagement fell into the lap of Ian Munro, and we were given a valuable and unexpected opportunity to hear more of this reticent, unremarkable second prizewinner.

Would Mozart, at last, offer a chink of light into the dark abyss that is the Mind of the Jury?

Munro just happened to have the C minor K491 Concerto at his fingertips. And that was where it stayed.

There was nothing at all in this grey, mechanistic performance, just as there was little in his Prokofiev at the weekend to indicate why he had been preferred above four other finalists.

But what was most worrying about Munro's playing was its reluctance to project any real engagement with the score.

The fingers set about their business efficiently enough, but as if bored by the instrumental conversation around them, and oblivious to the music's essential rhythmic and harmonic impetus.

For Munro there is a place for everything, and everything in its place; except, that is, for any true sense of delight in chamber music-making or for any real desire to communicate with his audience.

Hilary Finch

Harking back to that harp

OPERA

Tannhäuser
Covent Garden

Elijah Moshinsky's production of *Tannhäuser*, already markedly severe when it was first seen three years ago, has become even starker in this revival.

The only trouble is that, when the visual aspect is so bleak, the few remaining props need to be weighty enough to support some intensity of attention and significance. Here they are not. The rotating blue projections for Venus — a triangle in the first act and a tangled knot in the last — sit baldly outside the production, and also, because the tempo of their movement is alien, outside the music.



Renée Kollo as Tannhäuser, with Elisabeth (Cheryl Stander)

With Elisabeth's symbol the problem is different. A golden Irish harp seen against matt black may suggest candour, beauty and spirituality, but as a trademark it has been usurped by a brand of stout. Renée Kollo's singing may

have been in some want of bloom in the more lyrical sections, but he turned a potential disadvantage into a resounding plus by doing so much with the words, making large stretches of the role into fiercely expressive recitative.

The pity of it is that this was Mr Kollo's only appearance in the role: Klaus König, the first Tannhäuser of this production, returns for the remaining performances.

This was also the first and last opportunity to hear the dourly rich Venus of Stefania Toczyska and the quite outstanding Elisabeth of Cheryl Stander, who produces an enormous sound — with apparently no effort. She also has a remarkable ability not only to extend long phrases but also to colour them.

Among the permanent members of the cast, Hans Hagedorn sings elegantly but too much on one level as Wolfram. Gwynne Howell is characteristically sympathetic and noble as Hermann, and Kim Begley provides a lively Walther von der Vogelweide.

Paul Griffiths

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Sentiment breeds
THEATRE

Tattoo Theatre
Almeida

Arriving at the Almeida on a tide of acclaim from the Edinburgh fringe, this wordless hymn to the joys of cohabitation strikes me as a remarkable re-enactment of the emperor's new clothes.

Mladen Matcic's production was saluted in his native Yugoslavia as the debut of a "theatre of gentleness and compassion", from which, after seeing this whimsical piece, one can only assume a mass hunger for the sight of kindness and affection.

Played by a young company from Sarajevo, the show offers a key-hole view on the domestic lives of an ordinary young couple. They do not have much in the world; but they have their love — represented by a small velvet rabbit, which the boy gives his girl in the opening scene. In scene two, the rabbit has grown to human size and taken up residence in their cluttered apartment. Without that rabbit, my guess is that the loving couple might never have had a cross word.

As it is, whenever they do have a row (the production is full of flouncing exits and crossfallen returns) the rabbit is always on hand to comfort the abandoned partner even to the extent of removing its head and revealing the provocative features of Miljana Zirojevic, evidently all set to convert the sexual duet into a tpo.

So far as they go, the conjugal scenes notch up some honest, down-to-earth points on the ebb and flow of human affection: particularly where Jelena Covic and Harris Burna show love demanding penalties for its survival. Otherwise they seem to have been directed by numbers: their empty pauses and repetitious advances are wall-papered over with pop music; and you have only to imagine the dialogue to consign the whole thing to the trash can. This, I fear, is one for the old softies.

Irving Wardle

Woman's story
Adult Child/Dead Child, written and performed by Claire Dowie, will return to the King's Head Theatre Club, Islington, from October 13 to November 8 and will be featured in BBC's *Review* on October 4.

The 1987 winner of The English Song Award, counter-tenor Nicholas Clapton, will give a recital at the Wigmore Hall on Tuesday, November 17, at 7.30pm. Clapton will perform songs by, among others, Purcell, and Holst.

Buffalo migrates to the Vic
American Buffalo, by David Mamet, is playing at The Young Vic Studio from October 20 to November 7. Mamet is currently exciting interest as the screen-writer of the film *The Untouchables*, exposing the workings of the gangster elite.

The National Theatre's production of Arthur Miller's *A View From The Bridge* is to transfer to the Aldwych Theatre on Tuesday November 3.

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BOOKS

Tight network of pseuds in exile

Peter Ackroyd on the sad story of the lost literary Bohemians who mistook Montparnasse for Parnassus, and forsook their Muse

GENIUSES TOGETHER
American Writers in Paris in the 1920s
By Humphrey Carpenter
Unwin Hyman, £12.95

No doubt Oscar Wilde is to be believed when he told us that when good Americans die they go to Paris, but it is equally true that American writers tend to die — at least in creative terms — only after they have arrived in that city. So in a sense this book is an account of a fatal love affair, an *amour fou* of the Twenties, when a gaggle of novelists and poets fled from a continent which in the words of one contemporary offered nothing except "a bright futurity, a beginning without a future", and, chattering excitedly, made their way across the Atlantic. They rarely stopped in London, perhaps with good reason. In this period the capital city of Empire seemed to Pound to be "waterlogged", and to Robert McAlmon to be "sodden". Only Eliot remained behind and, since



right, one can never overestimate the effect of the cost of living upon culture. So here they all are, the American writers who congregated in Montparnasse and who waited with increasing desperation for something to happen: Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, like garden gnomes in a desert; Natalie Barney who has been described as

"unquestionably the leading lesbian of her time", a position alas for which there is no award (from Carpenter's account, by the way, there appears to have been more lesbianism in Paris than on that lovely Greek island where Sappho sang); Sylvia Beach, who will be remembered for ever because of her publication of *Ulysses*, but who at the time was better known

as the owner of a bookshop which acted as a postal address and clearing house for assorted American writers; and of course there was Hemingway who, in *The Sun Also Rises*, did for Paris what Bulwer-Lytton did for Pompeii. One of the characters in that novel is at least partly based upon Robert McAlmon, and with good reason since McAlmon became

living witness to the fact that it is fine to get drunk, but not to turn drunkenness into some kind of Holy Grail. People who boast about drinking are rarely capable of doing anything else.

In some of the most melancholy passages in this book Carpenter describes how often these self-exiled American writers managed fatally to confuse Bohemianism with talent. They rarely go together. The great artist tends to be the one who goes to bed early.

In any case there is something faintly ridiculous about any such literary "group" or "movement", since on the whole it is only second-rate writers who are happy to be identified with each other in anything other than a purely chronological sense. These Americans may have represented "the lost generation", to re-employ that famous phrase, but all they really lost along the Left Bank was their talent. They may have been geniuses together but, with the possible exception of Hemingway, they were certainly not geniuses apart.

Pound realized this relatively quickly, and fled to Italy where he could be alone with his increasingly obsessed Muse. Paris was too small for him, and this in almost a literal sense. The square mile around Montparnasse is not

everybody's idea of Parnassus, and when Gertrude Stein called Pound a "village explainer" she was hitting upon an essential truth: the American community did form a kind of village with its own particularly rural characteristics — the village idiot (McAlmon) for this role, along with many of his compatriots, the village bore (on occasions James Joyce but, again, there were many contenders), and all those strange mannish ladies with small dogs. It was a closed community too, in the sense that it had very little connection with the indigenous cultural activity of the city. This was the time of Dada, of Cocteau and Duchamp and Leger; but very little of this circumambient life affected the Americans, who remained supremely oblivious of everything except their own drunken gossip.

Carpenter provides an enthusiastic account of this small circle, and he writes with gusto if not always with precision. This is essentially familiar historical material going through the grinder once again; and no doubt we shall have to wait for Humphrey Carpenter's biographical account of Ezra Pound for more original perceptions. Nevertheless *Geniuses Together* can be recommended as a serviceable beginner's guide to that dolorous way between the Dome and the Coupole, and back again.

Sexual fantasy as a fine art

NOVEL
of the week

Victoria
Glendinning

BLACKKEYES
By Dennis Potter
Faber, £8.95



Potter calling kettle black: titillating descriptions of slender young limbs, frothy underwear and swelling breasts as Blackeyes, passive as a doll, performs in bed and out of it for fat, complacent advertising executives. "Her perfectly formed oval of a face was a blank upon which male desire could be projected," she hardily speaks. She is "an entranced automaton". The "sensuality

of the passive" is the basis of the book's eroticism, and when Blackeyes resists rape in a rich man's house she gets ticked off for spoiling the party.

Potter may be writing the satire critics believed Uncle Maurice had written. And he may not. "How many times," Jessica wonders, "would allegedly sympathetic accounts of the manifold ways in which women were so regularly humiliated be nothing more than yet further exercises of the same impulse, the identical power?"

Jessica rewrites Blackeyes's story, and the two girls' lives leak in and out of one another on the page. Jessica had "murder in her heart" from page one, and takes violent revenge on her revolting uncle before taking Blackeyes's sad death on herself. The impor-

tant thing, she says, is to have the last word. But Uncle Maurice told Jessica that he could only write "as a man" about women. Dennis Potter has the same problem. The only approximation to a decent man in Blackeyes, who becomes the narrator and rescues Blackeyes, is at the end outside her door, waiting to claim her. In a world "commandeered by men", and in novels written by men, the men will always have the last word. Or so this book suggests.

Boys will be boys then, however witty and sympathetic they are. Blackeyes is very witty and sympathetic. There is an account of a man's abuse of a little girl, told from both points of view, which is as delicately horrible as anything by Nabokov. Potter's fictions, for all their sophistication, are like popular songs in that everything depends on what the consumer reads into them. This novel shows Potter at his most brilliant, ambiguous and disturbing, though sadly it has not been tipped for the Booker like Uncle Maurice's. He may still be singing the same old song, but it's acquiring the status of a classic.

Comedy as witty wild goose chase

FICTION

Philip Howard

THE GOOSEBOY

By A.L. Barker

Hutchinson, £9.95

BLACK IDOL

By Lisa St Aubin de Terán

Cape, £9.95

ILLUMINATION

By Alice Hoffman

Macmillan, £9.95

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

By Lee Langley

Collins, £9.95

Film is the flavour of this season's novels. The central figure in *The Gooseboy* is an ageing English maitre d', idol of the silver screen who is offered his big chance to play the Albert Schweitzer figure in a Hollywood biopic. Douglas Bysshe, screen name Rex Snowdon, hides behind barbed wire in a crumbling villa in the South of France, to get away from his fans and unedited real life off the screen. He has a knack for making himself out to be what he isn't but is not too good at knowing what he is.

Frequent uninvited visitors besiege his sanctuary. His twin sister, Dulcie, the exorcist of the pair, arrives in hot pursuit of her unsatisfactory husband, who has run off with Cherrymay, the teenage daughter of her best friend. A saboteur, American journalist, who chews the subjects of her profiles for breakfast and spits the pieces over her column, follows him home. The "oleboy" is a mysterious adolescent who has settled on the estate. He is dumb, almost deaf, with half his face hideously deformed by fire, the other half as beautiful as Pan.

Summary of the cast makes this sound a bit over the top. But it is a delightful novel of a typically English kind: a pleasure in eccentricity, and class and character cutly observed. A.L. Barker has a strong idiosyncrasy, and a sharp eye for precise detail. She has original and entertaining notions about everything from the "art" of photography to the ambiguity of twins. Dialogue and plot work through indications and obliquities. You never guess what is going to happen next. Women have the last word.

Black Idol is a fictional recreation of a sensational tragedy of the torrid Twenties. On

York. Lisa St Aubin de Terán manages to make these sensational events banal. Her account is persuasive enough, and grim enough to whistle up Harry's black greyhound of melancholy. She is better at fictionalizing autobiography than the front page. This real-life-fiction about paramours in decadence and death-wish is not a lot of fun for solitary Sunday reading.

Alice Hoffman's novel, also about extravagant goings-on in the States, is more cheerful. They take place on Martha's Vineyard, the Massachusetts island, where the grand illumination is a festival of lanterns honouring the founding fathers. There is an old woman who finds a reason to go on living to see what her wild granddaughter is going to do next. Her neighbours are a young couple with marriage problems, and a flawed little boy who just won't grow. There is a young and beautiful giant, eight feet tall and reclusive. And there is the pubescent granddaughter, who is like a time bomb to live with. Alice Hoffman has a bull's eye on the incomprehensions between the young and the old, on the magic and pain of ordinary life. She is erotic and romantic, and cool. Hard men might find her a bit twee. I think she is funny, and clever, and humane.

Change of Address is the recollection of a solitary little girl, dragged around India in the 1940s in ever-decreasing circles by a galloping and impossible mother, seen through the eyes of the child and the woman she grows up into. It has the ring of truth about children, and India in the last days of the British Raj, and poor, difficult mothers.

Her post-mortem monologue recounts Harry's life and times, stronger stuff than the home life of your average rich playboy from Boston. City of Dreadful Night. Claustrophobic childhood; runaway marriage with Caresse (Mrs Peabody) big-bosomed inventor of a new kind of bra; horrors in the First World War; literary lion cub as friend of Hemingway and MacLeish; orgies, infatuation, and opium, which is Harry's black idol. The wilderness comes home to roost in the dingy hotel room in New

NEW BOOKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

- A Life of Emily Brontë, by Edward Githam (Blackwell, £14.95) Uses neglected material to explore symbolism, psychology, father "Papist" and other controversies.
- Argument of Kings, by Vernon Scannell (Robson, £10.95) Autobiography by the poet of his macho war service as a Gordon Highlander from military prison as deserter to D-Day.
- Australia, The Creation of a Nation 1788-1988, by Charles Wilson (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.95) Bicentenary history and portrait by former Professor of Modern History at Cambridge.
- Four Men Went to War, by Bruce Lewis (Leo Cooper, £14.95) Memoirs of Cockney, Yank, Italian, German.
- Going to Moscow, by David Rieff (Bloomsbury, £12.95) Exotic tales, tourists, and other refugees in the New America.
- Pound/Zukofsky, edited by Barry Ahearn (Faber, £30) Selected literary letters between the poets.
- Sartre, by Iris Murdoch (Chatto & Windus, £11.95) Penetrating introduction to the romantic rationalist, novelist and trendy *penseur*, with a new introduction.
- The Campbell Companion, edited and introduced by Ulrik O'Connor (Pavilion, £12.95) Patrick Campbell's funniest.
- The Shape of English, by Roger Lass (Dent, £30) Magisterial on the structure, history, and state of the world language by New York Professor of Linguistics at Cape Town.
- Zionism, The Crucial Phase, by David Vital (Oxford, £35) Myths and truth explored about the revival of Zionism during First World War by Professor of Diplomacy at Tel Aviv.

Joker Down Under

Geoffrey Moorhouse

IN THE LAND

OF OZ

By Howard Jacobson

Hamish Hamilton, £12.95



Jacobson as solipsist

Something over 50 years ago, Thomas Wood's *Cobbers* appeared in the first of numerous printings; and it remains the classic description of Australia during the colonial heyday, dated by its title, as in Mr Jacobson's book. It's unfair to compare the two; yet this is inevitable when they cover much the same ground, and typify a lot of the travel writing extant in their times. Wood was elegant, cerebral, detached in spite of his warmth. Jacobson is almost devoid of style, emotional, and always in the foreground himself.

His saving grace is that he has a good eye for people, though he rarely employs it as well as he does in Fremantle, where he notices a street clown and a precocious Italian five-year-old boy. Mr Jacobson did not go Down Under unprejudiced. Australians, he decides at some stage of his journey, are "marooned on some beautiful but futile star", which is a catchy image that might have been more obviously a theme of the book if its author were given more to cogitation and rather less to feverish performance and snappy repartee.

Sometimes he prefers pure gossip column ("I didn't meet the Governor during the next interval. I met Lucette Aldous. One of the most distinguished living figures of West Australian ballet, Lucette Aldous had once danced with Nureyev,"), at others crude travelogue; but most of all he gives us Howard Jacobson as the focal point of an entire continent, which would be all very well if he

were doing something unusual there, but he isn't. When one of his long-distance bus rides takes him to Albert Namatjira's monument, he has nothing at all to say about the artist's work and its relationship to the Outback, but does not fail to recall that the day Namatjira died, he himself was being sick on holiday in the Lake District with schoolfriends.

He is sympathetic to the historical difficulties of the original Australians, astute enough to make the point that while the Aborigine comes "somewhere between a petty problem and a pestilence, his arts and customs are a matter for reverence and national pride". But in his very next sentence he cannot resist suggesting that when Sir George Grey came across aboriginal

art in the 19th century, he was "as unequivocal in his judgments as Waldemar Januszczek". Has anyone other than a reader of *The Guardian* ever heard of Mr Januszczek?

There are many other times when Mr Jacobson seems to be writing for a small coterie of his familiars, who will get a buzz from knowing every quip and thrust exchanged by him and his wife on the travels round Oz, and will roll around happily at his relentlessly facetious comments on this and that. Others may not be so amused; and will think it an unbalanced description of Australia in post-colonial times that crams both Brisbane and Sydney (also Tasmania) into the last 20 pages of a 380-page book. By then, maybe the author had himself wearied of his own verbosity.

Spooks and the Pope

THRILLERS

Tim Heald

IN THE NAME OF
THE FATHER

By A.J. Quinnell

Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95

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A.J. Quinnell is that rarity in the world of publishing hype — a genuinely impenetrable pseudonym. Only his agent knows. Or so his publishers say. My guess is that he's either the new Chancellor of Oxford University, heavily ghosted, or a Catholic layman with a sense of style and humour. Surely not Norman St John Stevas?

The plot is that Yuri Andropov, the almost forgotten last Soviet boss but two, is determined to kill the Pope. Certain Vatican high-ups feel the only way to stop him is to get in a pre-emptive strike. The key figure in this is a master of disguise called the Bacon Priest — the sort of elderly cleric who is prone to sitting about on park benches pretending to be a very smelly old lady.

He and a couple of Vatican smoothies recruit a team of two — one is a former Polish secret police major who has conveniently defected after shooting two of his beautiful officers; the other a high cheek bones and a wide full mouth. Humrah for beautiful nuns with high cheek bones and wide full mouths, for they are the stuff of good thrillers.

Even at his most outrageous Quinnell never quite cheats, although he comes perilously close with a "with one bound our hero was free" cop-out. Whereas purist critics give a yellow card for full mouths and high cheek-bones they sometimes send a chap off for one of those. Luckily I'm not that sort of reviewer. I'm easily disarmed by beautiful nuns.

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BOOKSELLING

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Browsing and buying: the style sharpens

Bookselling is moving away from its slightly muddled and untidy image towards service that is fast and efficient without losing its attractive air, says Philippa Toomey

What's in a name? Shakespeare didn't think it mattered all that much, but what do the customers and friends of Truslove and Hanson feel now that it has changed its name to Sherratt & Hughes? It has always been a very special bookshop, ever since W.H. Smith bought it in 1919, when the previous year's profit was 19/6d.

Two years ago W. H. Smith bought the Webster chain of bookshops from Octopus, adding to their acquisitions,

which included, among others, Bowes and Bowes, (a going concern for 400 years).

"If we needed a plan which would do a better job for the customers, it would make better sense to have one name for all the shops," says Tim Coates, managing director of Sherratt & Hughes.

There are now more than 40 shops in the group, seven in university campuses, and including one in Brussels and one in Paris. Mr Coates said: "The biggest and best and most famous shop in the group was Sherratt & Hughes in Manchester — we never found anyone who didn't like it, and that seemed a very good starting point, so Sherratt & Hughes it was."

In the last few years, bookshops have been changing their image, from the

slightly muddled, somewhat untidy but attractive places for those who knew what they were looking for, to bright, attractive, well-designed shops that can make a lot of money.

Tim Waterstone startled the trade by staying open late — his new Hampstead bookshop promises to be open until 11 pm — and there are now 17 branches of the up-market Hatchards.

The newest one will be in Barker's Arcade, Kensington, within browsing distance of Waterstones in the High Street. The refurbished Dilsons, in Malet Street, now a delight to browse in, is investing in a huge new bookshop in Broad Street, Oxford, a rival to Blackwells.

The 20 Hammick shops and the automated warehouse at



Frimley are for sale at the moment. Pentos (owner of Dilsons), Collins (Hatchards), W. H. Smith and Blackwells are the most fancied purchasers. Books Etc. is a good deal in the naughty world of Fenchurch Street, (and elsewhere) and there are still small independent bookshops.

The style of Sherratt & Hughes has been carefully designed, from the logo, the interiors of and natural

woods, down to the carrier bags and the banners in the windows. But it really starts, said Mr Coates, with the customer.

"To read a book that you enjoy is a fantastic pleasure," he said, having come a bit late to reading (at about 16, he was suddenly struck by Tolkien and Evelyn Waugh), but with the enthusiasm of a convert, he wants to ensure that everyone can have this pleasure.

"Reading is the second-most popular leisure activity," he added (watching TV comes first). "The problem is helping people to find the book they really want to read. Bookselling has tended to be rather arrogant in the past, saying, 'This is what's been published, and there it is.' You are supposed to know your way around the bizarre world of publishing to the bit that you like."

And of course, he said, gloomily, people do not know their way around, and miss the books they might enjoy. You need help — like buying wine.

So the shops are carefully signposted and labelled and displayed (he remembers a section called Other Interests and one even more memorably entitled Large Penguins). People like to buy books for information — whether it is their health or children's education, or some other problem.

"We try to see that all our staff not only have the knowledge of what is there, but that they are helpful — two separate things. Our staff have just come out at the top of a survey of booksellers, and we have a perpetual need for training. We look for an interest in books, and the ability to get on with people."

After the initial training in their first and second years, training sessions take place every week. In August the emphasis was on "back to school".

"We made sure our staff understand what books are going to be needed for GCSEs and that they can be helpful to parents, a lot of whom are bewildered by the changes. We have evenings for teachers to look at what is available."

"On the other hand, bookshops should never be intimidating to people who are not at home with books. There is a lot of snobbery about books, and its therefore very important that a bookshop is as welcoming as any shop in the high street."

To warm that welcome, there are special events, Cricketer, Fortnight at the Leadenhall Street branch scored well, and Geoffrey Boycott has virtually covered the country by now. Sports of all kinds are popular, and there are the new ones, as seen on TV, such as American Football and baseball.

"It's not true that TV is bad for reading," said Mr Coates. "There's a rush on now for *Vanity Fair*, and *Scoop* did well too" but he wishes he could introduce more people to the complete works of Evelyn Waugh, apart from *Brideshead Revisited*. And then he'd introduce them to William Boyd. And then...

Special events will take place in Knightsbridge, too, under the business's new name, although the stationery and the engraving service will continue under the old name.

The customers expect all the new books to be there, and they will, until late, seven days a week. If you are reading a review, reach for the telephone and order the book — if you have a credit card, they will deliver.

If bookselling is getting better-organized, Tim Coates expects another 750,000 copies of *Sins* will sell, after the best and worst of publicity over the TV mini-series starring Joan Collins. *Sins*, by Judith Gould (a pen name for two men) sold more than 500,000 when it was first published in 1983, and as Penelope McNella says, readers will be pleasantly surprised to find that the book is better than the series.

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Secret awaiting discovery

What sells a book? If anyone knew, they would be a millionaire. Philippa Toomey writes. Susan Lamb, publicity director of Century Hutchinson, says that it is not advertising, because no publisher can really spend enough on one book.

"It's horses for courses," she said. "Reviews can help, but feature articles are much better." She cites *Soraya*, by Edward Rutherford, a huge historical novel, the first book by an unknown author which has sold more than 30,000 copies in paperback, with no reviews. Most first novelists are lucky if they sell 1,000 copies but for Mr Rutherford there were two feature articles, an appearance on TV, and a lot of advertising.

By Susan Lamb's rule of thumb (6,000 in paperback, 60,000 in paperback), *Soraya* should reach a wide public. It is now, as she says, third on

The rewards of Sins

the US bestseller list (with reviews).

Word of mouth helps. Susan Lamb said: "Everyone who read *Maevy Blinck's Light a Penny Candle* loved it, and recommended it to someone else, and Katie Fossitt had a fan club waiting and ready for *Glorious Knitting* — which has sold more than 100,000 copies."

Penelope McNella, publicity director of Macdonald, expects another 750,000 copies of *Sins* will sell, after the best and worst of publicity over the TV mini-series starring Joan Collins. *Sins*, by Judith Gould (a pen name for two men) sold more than 500,000 when it was first published in 1983, and as Penelope McNella says, readers will be pleasantly surprised to find that the book is better than the series.

This also applied to Macdonald's big bestseller, Colleen McCullough's *The Thorn Birds*, which was far better than the TV travesty of Australian life. Though it had been published six years earlier, TV viewers bought 750,000 copies of the book.

With 100,000 buyers of the *Guides*, she has come to the conclusion that the book industry at the moment can be described as buoyant.

Belinda Harley, of Belinda Harley Associates, an independent publicist, agrees that publicity sells books, and believes in Radio 4 — "It goes right through the day from *Today*, *You and Yours*, *Woman's Hour*, the arts programmes, the news, *Money Box*, *Profile* (including one of Dr Arnold Hammer, one of my clients). *The Financial World Tonight* — not a large audience but a captive, book-buying one — *Round Midnight*."

"I have not had anything on *Farming Today* yet — perhaps a heroine could die of brucellosis! The publication of any book is an event in video or a record is a hype and part of the circulation of ideas."

Author appearances and signings are not always a success, with either too few or too many people. Tim Coates can remember not only a shop but a shopping precinct, jammed with people, waiting to see Gina Lollobrigida. And Jennifer Johnston, sitting at a table near the door, found people obediently opening their handbags, assuming her to represent security rather than literature.

Patricia Braithwaite, who sells books not only through the *Good Book Guide* (which lists and gives pointed reviews of hundreds of selected books) but also from the cosy bookshop of the same name at 91 Great Russell Street, says that people do not always read reviews, and do not remember them if they do, welcoming a reminder, a prod in the direc-

The business is buoyant

tion of a book, with the opportunity she offers to buy it by direct mail.

"Buying a book is often a spontaneous purchase, and if a bookshop doesn't have the book you want, that's a sale lost, because not many people are prepared to order a book, unless it's very important," says Patricia Braithwaite.

With 100,000 buyers of the *Guides*, she has come to the conclusion that the book industry at the moment can be described as buoyant.

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The bad news written between the lines

Only in recent times have booksellers had an influx of marketing and sales talent to drag the trade out of its old ways and dispel its crusty, academic, backstreet image.

From figures in the Charter Group surveys published by the Manchester Business School, booksellers would have been wiser to put their money into the Post Office. Net profit margins have hovered around the three per cent mark for the last 10 years, well below the earnings of other retailing sectors.

It is said that while books face a great future, the industry is facing a major problem. The number of people buying books has fallen over the last seven years and prices have risen steeply: 40 per cent faster than inflation since 1980.

As a result, many booksellers can expect to go out of business in the next decade, unable to upgrade their premises and invest in marketing to cope with the increasingly fierce competition. One

The art of selling at a decent profit has eluded the book trade for many years. But changes will be made

forecast is that 300 independent booksellers will go bust by 1997.

During the 1980s, the overall return on operating assets for booksellers has risen from five per cent in 1981 to eight per cent in 1985-86. But as a new study by Arthur Young, a firm of management consultants, and London Economics stresses, the latest figure "falls well below the cost of replacing capital and the returns available from building societies and similar investments."

John Hyams, president of the Booksellers Association and deputy merchandising controller books for W. H. Smith, says: "We think that the estimate of 300 casualties may be a minimum. The moral is that to meet the challenges, booksellers need to be more professional."

"A lot of small booksellers are in the

game because they love books and it is an enjoyable occupation. They are in danger, however, if they fail to combine their enjoyment with more modern methods.

It would be unhealthy for the industry if the "apocalyptic" predictions of the Young report were proved correct, said Mr Hyams. "Many small booksellers are valuable in their local communities in a social sense and a lot of them will, I hope, sharpen up. There is always the danger of irresponsibility by the big chains and they need healthy competition from the independents."

The rise of the bookselling multiple chain began in earnest about three years ago and names such as Sherratt & Hughes (part of W. H. Smith), Waterstones, Penfolds, Hatchards and Books Etc are in the forefront.

The Booksellers Association estimates that there are now 250 "pure" book multiple outlets and they are growing by 10 per cent a year.

However, as the Young report comments, Sherratt & Hughes, Waterstones and Hammicks hotly contest being described as multiple chain outlets. "The concept sits uncomfortably alongside

Multiples to join forces?

their professed intention to develop groups of largely autonomous, high-quality bookshops.

The leading groups, it says, are now locked in fierce competition to secure prime high-street sites throughout the UK.

"At this stage it would appear that the publishing industry is generally very happy with the emergence of influential bookshop chains as they represent the kind of progressive retailer which they feel is required if the market for books is to be expanded."

As a result, the independent specialist bookseller is expected to account for just five per cent of sales in 1996 against eight per cent in 1985, while the multiple groups could see their share rise to almost 75 per cent of sales.

And the prospect is raised of the multiples joining forces to finance the necessary investment in technology and shops, leaving, says Young, a maximum of three national book-retailing multiples.

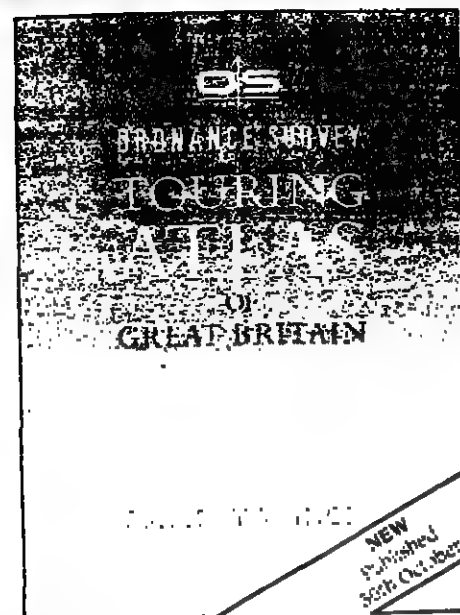
Edward Townsend



Symbol of one of Britain's best bookshops and right, the friendly front of Hammick's at Farnham in Surrey



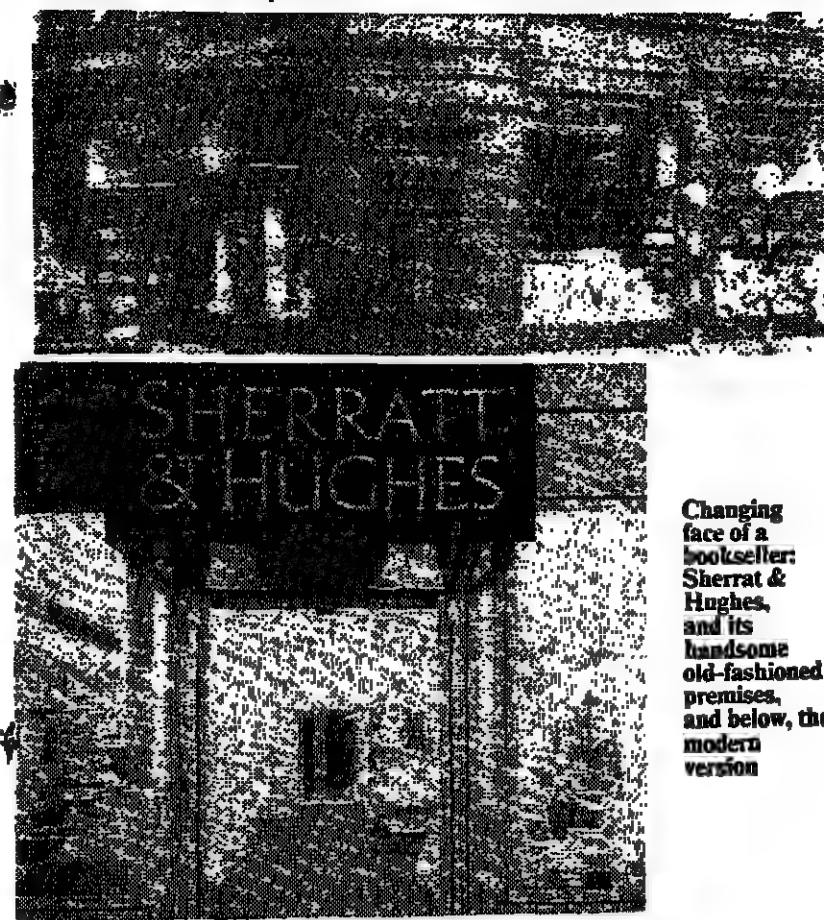
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PAUL HAMLYN



Changing face of a bookseller: Sherratt & Hughes, and its handsome old-fashioned premises, and below, the modern version

A look behind the stacked shelves in a little shop

One of the youngest London bookshops, Biografia, which opened in Covent Garden this year, fulfils two of the main requirements for success in this field. It has a good location and a firm commitment to the kind of book it should be stocking.

Biographies, memoirs and autobiographies are displayed in a well-designed set of rooms on the first floor of the arcade. It is rather like browsing through a sequence of airy attics: when you come upon a favourite book in the excellent secondhand section, right at

the back, you can cherish the illusion that it is your own discovery.

A sense of congeniality is a crucial element in attracting, and nurturing, a bookshop's clientele; that, and the knowledge that it will be worth your while travelling across town to find the books you did not already know about, as well as the one you have made up your mind to buy.

The owners and manager of Biografia have between them an extensive knowledge of the book trade — they include Martyn Goff, director of Book

Trust — and their decision to specialise reinforces the importance of this factor in successful selling. An obvious truth, you might think, but one that high-powered professionals, as well as hopeful amateurs, ignore at their peril.

Virago the publisher opened its first bookshop in December, 1984, only 10 minutes' walk from where Biografia is now. The opening party somehow embodied the virtues of the Virago list, with Rosamond Lehmann as guest of honour — handsome and distinguished, surrounded by a knot of young admirers. The place was packed but it was possible to get a glimpse of mirrors, plants, an elegant colour scheme — the shop had all the seductive appeal of a boutique.

Sadly, Virago closed its bookshop this July, an event that provokes many questions. Was the shop in the wrong street? Was there too much emphasis on aesthetics and too little on shelf space? Was it a mistake to make it a general bookshop, not an exclusively feminist concern?

All these criticisms may be valid to a point but they are less important than one overriding fact: publishers and

Publishers and sellers run on different rules

booksellers operate under a totally different set of rules. Publishers are used to larger and faster profits than the retail trade provides: they do not have to know who their customers are, let alone chat to them over the latest paperbacks.

Alison Rimmer, a senior manager at Hefers, Cambridge, is well informed about the problems of small bookshops: she knows the smaller units within the Hefers group. "It's a tough business," she explained. "If you're dealing in a gross profit margin of 33 per cent and a net profit of 4 per cent, you have to be very skilful in your ordering."

Every inch of the shop must work. In most other businesses the shop can set a competitive retail price but in this country the Net Book Agreement obliges all booksellers to sell their book at the same price — that fixed by the publisher. To some extent, it protects small shops but it certainly means you cannot sell books like you sell clothes.

"There are plenty of pitfalls," ... remaindered

stock, for instance. It's usually a case of the publisher wanting to get rid of excess stock and a little bookshop snapping it up, only to discover why it didn't shift in the first place.

After such cautioning, it is cheering to consider the bookshops that do well, often small local shops that built up their reputation over the years.

The Angel Bookshop in Islington, north London, has been

Best selection possible in their space

going since the 1960s, tucked away in Camden Passage in an area thickly populated by antique dealers, impulse buyers, media types and local authors.

John Murray Brown, who took over the business 10 years ago, runs it with his wife; they live nearby. The steady flow of browsers and buyers noticeable in any half hour is proof of their good judgement.

They are people who enjoy books for their own sake and provide their customers with the best selection their space can afford. The shop is particularly strong in fiction titles.

"There's a great vogue now, which pushes aggressive selling," said Mr Murray Brown. "My method is to fill the shop with books I think my customers will want and do my best to make coming here a pleasant occasion. I always tell people we're in the entertainment business."

Sound advice for anyone with a small bit of capital and a yen to sell books.

Judith Cooke

The author is editor of the Fiction Magazine



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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **COMEDIES:** Mark McGann and Bert Parrish in Trevor Griffiths' harshly funny account of a class for comics. Young Vic Theatre, 65 The Cut, SE1 (01-928 8880). Tues-Wed-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-10.50pm, mat Sat 4-6.50pm, £7.50. (D)

★ **CURTAINS:** Bridget Turner and Alfred Lynch lead singing cast of provincial hypocrites comically failing to cope with the facts of murder. Hammersmith Theatre, Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-722 9301). Tues-Sat 8-10.15pm, mat Sat 4.30-6.45pm, £7.50.

★ **DEFINITELY THE BAHAMAS:** John Moffatt and Heather Canning in clever play about the nice middle-class by Martin Cripp. Directed by Alec McCowen. Orange Tree Theatre, 45 Kew Road, Richmond (01-940 3833). Tues-Richmond Mon-Sat 8-10pm, mat Sat 5-7pm, £2.50-2.55.

★ **DIARY OF A SOMEBODY:** The private life of Joe Orton: funny, clever, painful and rough. Boulevard Theatre, Wilton Court, Brewer Street, W1 (01-437 2661). Tues-Piccadilly Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, £8.50-10.50.

★ **GROUCHO: A LIFE IN REVIEW:** Frank Ferrante in musical entertainment about the man with the cork moustache. Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (01-930 2578). Tues-Piccadilly Mon-Sat 8-10.10pm, mat Wed 3-5.10pm and Sat 5-7.10pm, £4-12.50. (D)

★ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** Donald Sinden's stately production re-opens a theatre long lost to television. Dame Wendy Hiller is appalled by the handbag. Royal Theatre, Portugal Street, WC2 (01-831 0680). Tues-Holborn Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Wed 3-5.30pm, Sat 5-7.30pm, £8.50-12.50.

★ **INFIDELITIES:** William Gaskin's contemporary production of Marivaux classic comedy, with Eleanor Bron and John Lynch. Lyric Theatre, King Street, W6 (01-231 1211). Tues-Hammersmith Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Wed 3-5.30pm, Sat 5-7.30pm, £8.50-12.50. (D)

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder. Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3038). ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072). ★ The 400 Blows: New London Theatre (01-734 9651). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/94). ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassadors Theatre (01-636 6111). ★ The 400 Blows: New London Theatre (01-734 9651). ★ The 400 Blows: New London Theatre (01-734 9651).

★ **THE GOOD WIFE (15):** Australian tale of a woman's life with a Liverpool dress shop, where a businesswoman takes a ride by crazy Kim Basinger (95 min). Canon Chelsea (01-352 5098). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.35.

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OUT OF TOWN

★ **LANCASTER:** It's a Gilt Revival of the company's exhilarating all-woman musical show on pregnancy and allied matters. Duke's Theatre, Moor Lane (0524 66645). Tues-Sat 7.30pm, £4.50-2.55.

★ **LEICESTER:** ★ Summer and Smoke: Frances Barber in major revival of early Tennessee Williams. Haymarket Theatre, Belgrave Gate (0533 53977). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £3.50-2.50.

★ **MANCHESTER:** ★ Don Carlos: Ian McDiarmid plays Philip of Spain in Schiller's drama of love and politics. Royal Exchange Theatre, Cross Street (01-633 9839). Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, £2.60-2.50.

★ **WATFORD:** ★ Mary Rose: Amanda Waring in the title role of Barrie's affecting play about a ghost, mother love and Hebridean island. Palace Theatre, Calverton Road (0223 25571). Mon-Thurs 7.45pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, mat Sat 3pm, £2.50-2.55. (D)

FILMS

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★ **BLIND DATE (15):** Blake Edwards's fast-moving comedy with Bruce Willis as the straight businesswoman takes a ride by crazy Kim Basinger (95 min). Canon Chelsea (01-352 5098). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.35.

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★ **LETTERS FROM A DEAD MAN (PG):** Chilling and brilliantly staged vision, by Konstantin Lopuchinsky, of a nuclear holocaust's aftermath (89 min). Renard (01-837 8402). Progs 1.30, 3.30, 5.15, 7.10, 9.10.

★ **MISS MARY (15):** Julie Christie plays the title role — a prim English governess with inner frustrations, hired to educate the children on a prosperous Argentinean farm (1936). Handsomely mounted drama from the Argentinean director Maria Luisa Bemberg (100 min). Curzon Phoenix (01-240 9661). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

★ **OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE (15):** Two ladies as alike as chalk and cheese lead themselves in love with the same man. Formula material, given a special sparkle by Shelley Long and Richard Milder. Directed by Arthur Hiller. Odeon High Street Kensington (01-632 6644). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 5.10, 8.40.

★ **ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (01-930 6111):** Progs 1.15, 4.30, 7.45. Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.40.

★ **RITA, SUE AND BOB TOO (18):** Estate agent Bob embarks on complicated games of extra-marital sex with Rita and Sue, two Yorkshire schoolgirls. Raucous British comedy in the realist tradition (83 min). Warner (01-439 0791). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.35.

★ **THE SECRET POLICEMAN (18):** Filmed highlights from four nights of comedy and music performed at the London Palladium by Amos Milburn (90 min). Cannon Shetland Square (01-636 6279). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.45, 8.25.

★ **THE UNTOUCHABLES (15):** Eliot Ness's gangbusters go after Al Capone in Brian De Palma's entertaining drama, filled with bullets, blood and a superb dialogue by playwright David Mamet. With Kevin Costner, Sean Connery and Robert De Niro (120 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.15, 5.10, 8.10.

★ **CANNON EDGEMORE ROAD (01-728 5901):** Progs 2.35, 5.20, 8.20. Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.10.

★ **SCREEN ON THE GREEN (01-228 3520):** Progs 4.05, 6.30, 8.45.

★ **THE GOOD WIFE (15):** Australian tale of a woman's life with a Liverpool dress shop, where a businesswoman takes a ride by crazy Kim Basinger (95 min). Canon Chelsea (01-352 5098). Progs 2.15, 4.15, 6.15, 8.15, 10.15.

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There are goose fairs held all over the country, but none more famous than the Nottingham Goose Fair. Nobody knows for certain just how old it is, nor — in spite of many an educated guess — how it got its name. It was specifically mentioned in the Nottingham Borough Records of 1541, but the likelihood is that the fair — or one very similar — existed long before that. Certainly one was held in Nottingham on the Feast of St Matthew in 1284 and every year on that saint's day until 1752, which lends credence to the belief that Goose Fair was originally St Matthew's Fair. A more popular theory is that, along with other goose fairs, it was named after the gaggles of fattened geese

driven to market to be sold for the traditional Michaelmas Feast. Whatever its antecedents, the Goose Fair has changed over the centuries from an essential, though festive, market to a huge fair which attracts visitors from all over the country and abroad. In the 1920s it was moved from the Market Place to its current site, the Forest Recreation Ground, one mile to the north. But though the geese may be gone, the geese remain. Nottingham Goose Fair is officially opened today at 12 noon by the Lord Mayor in the presence of the Sheriff and other civic dignitaries and remains open until 11pm, tomorrow and Saturday 10am to 11pm. Admission is free.

★ **PRUSSIAN COVES:** Directed by Sander Vagh, international musicians from the Open Chamber Music Seminar at Prussia Cove, Cornwall, tackle Mozart's Quintet K 593 and Beethoven's Quartet Op 131. This is performed by sixteen players, including the composer, at the Prussia Cove, Cornwall. Tickets £10.00. Prussia Cove, Cornwall. Tel: (01326 2141). 7.30pm, £5.00.

★ **FIDELIO QUARTETS:** The Association of British Music and the Composers' Guild present a Wood's Quartet No 2. Eric Hulse's Quartet No 3 and Thomas Wilson's Quartet No 4 interpreted by the Fidelity Quartet. British Music Information Centre, 10 Stratford Place, London W1 (01-492 8567). 7.30pm, free.

★ **COOL CONCERT:** The Chamber Orchestra of London is conducted by Philip Simms in Handel's Water Music, Vivaldi's Seasons (John Bradbury, violin) and Mozart's Concerto K 487 (Mick Sew, piano). Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795). 01-628 8891. 7.45-9.45pm, £5.00-12.50.

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 6.00 Cee-fax AM.
6.30 Edgar Kennedy in What Fur (TV).
7.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55. Plus, overnight news from the Labour Party Conference in Brighton.
8.40 Open Air. Viewers comment on last night's television programmes. To participate ring 061-914 0424. 8.55 Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather 9.05 Neighbours (r).
9.25 Labour Party Conference 1987. Live coverage of the proceedings at Brighton. Includes news and weather at 10.00.
10.30 Peter's ABC. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by Play School.
10.55 Five to Eleven. A thought for the day from Irene Quick 11.00 News and weather 11.05 Labour Party Conference 1987. Further coverage of the fourth day's proceedings. Includes news and weather at 12.00.
12.30 Open Air presented by Susan Raa. Programme makers meet their critics 12.55 Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.30 Neighbours.
1.50 International Golf: The Dunhill Cup. The world professional team championship from St Andrews featuring players from 16 nations playing for prize money worth more than a million dollars.
3.50 Wicket with Paul Daniels (r). 4.05 Batty Adventures 4.20 Beat the Teacher. Quiz game presented by Bruno Brookes 4.35 Thundercats.
4.55 Newsround with Roger Fenn, Helen Rollason and John Craven. 5.05 Peter's Cee-fax. Cee-fax reports from Moscow's Great Synagogue, the Al-Bukhary Mosque in Samarqand and the Cathedral of the Assumption in Zagorsk. Plus, a performance by the Royal Thai Classical Dancers. 5.35 The Flintstones.
5.50 Six O'Clock News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell 6.35 London Plus.
7.00 Top of the Pops introduced by Mike Smith and Gary Davies.
7.30 EastEnders. Dr Legg is concerned about Lou's interest in a shopping spree. (Cee-fax)
8.00 Tomorrow's World includes a report from Britain's main satellite receiving station at Goolville and news of a new anti-theft device for cars.
8.30 Only Fools and Horses... Trigger's niece arrives on the scene and Rodney and Del become rivals in love. But was Del wise to tell her he was once a paratrooper? (r). (Cee-fax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Marilyn Lewis and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.
9.30 Blackadder the Third. As revolution sweeps France with the aristocrats losing their heads, Blackadder becomes fed up with the wave of Francoise's fever that is spreading through London and the hero-worshipping of the Scarlet Pimpernel. But a £1,000 reward soon sends him into Le Adieu Noir. (Cee-fax)
10.00 Conference Question Time. Sir Robin Day's guests in Brighton are Lord Young and Mrs Charles Kennedy, Ken Livingstone and John Smith.
11.00 The Untouchables (b/w) Agent Eliot Ness investigates 1933 Chicago. Starring Robert Stack and, tonight, Cameron Mitchell. The narrator is Walter Winchell.
11.50 Weather.

BBC2

- 6.55 Open University: Social Science Really Necessary? Ends at 7.30. 8.00 Cee-fax.
9.25 Daytime on Two: learning to ski in Austria 9.42 Media studies 10.15 Baked beans 10.30 Scientists 11.00 The Kickabout 11.15 Above and below a city street 11.35 With Everton football fans in the Netherlands.
12.05 Evolution 12.25 The Function of Art in War 12.50 Microtechnology 1.20 For the very young 1.35 Sounds heard on a building site 2.00 News and weather 2.02 Harvesting grain.
2.15 Labour Party Conference 1987. Coverage of the afternoon session in Brighton, includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.30.
3.55 International Golf: The Dunhill Cup. The opening matches in the world professional three-man team event at St Andrews.
6.40 Off the Coast. Gordon Hewitt talk to Lee Travelling about his life on and off the coast course (first shown on BBC Scotland).
6.00 Battered Galaxies. Part two of the adventure The Gun on Ice Planet Zero.

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ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am introduced by Kay Burley and Mike Morris. News at 6.00 and 6.30 weather at 6.28 and 6.58; financial news at 6.35; sport at 6.40; and scores at 6.55.
7.00 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Richard Keys. News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; cartoon at 7.25; sport at 7.40; and pop music at 7.55. After Nine includes Claire Rayner discussing mixed marriages.
9.25 Thames news headlines 9.30 Chain Letters. World game presented by Jeremy Beadle 10.00 Santa Barbara. Glossy American soap 10.25 News headlines 10.30 The Time... The Place... Mike Scott chairs a discussion on standards of service in this country.
11.10 Puddle Lane. Puppet series. With Neil Innes. 11.25 Thames news headlines 11.30 Look Good, Feel Great. This week's health magazine programme. On air beauty 12.00 The Sunbather.
12.30 News with Julia Somerville 12.50 Thames news.
1.00 Palace Great. Dramatic series set in California 1920s. Starring Jane Wymann and Cesar Romero 1.55 Home Cookery Club. Blackberry Batter Pudding. 2.00 That's My Dog. Cartoons and puppetry presented by Derek Hobson.
2.30 All Our Yesterdays. Bernard Braden looks back at the events of the previous year. 3.00 Take the High Road. 3.25 Thames news headlines 3.30 Sons and Daughters.
4.00 Pledge. Christopher Lillicrap and the story of the Napping House. 4.10 The Adventures of Tintin 4.30 Club 'n' Fips (r). 4.45 Professor Lobster travels back in time to the heyday of the Crystal Palace.
5.15 Snooker. Quarter-final action in the Fidelity International.
5.45 News with Alastair Stewart

CHANNEL 4

- 6.30 Schools.
12.00 Business. Daily. Business and financial news service.
12.30 Just 4 Fun. Three short programmes for young children.
1.00 Powerlines. The second of the Open College programme, examining electricity. Today - how electronics are made to do work and an explanation of George Ohm's law. (Oracle)
1.30 The Business of the Open College series aimed at senior and middle management (r). (Oracle)
2.00 Snooker. Quarter-final action in the Fidelity International.
2.30 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. Brough Scott introduces coverage of the Main Real Stakes (2.35); the Blackstock and General Insurance Stakes (3.05); and the Jersey Club Cup (3.40).
4.00 Snooker. Further coverage of the Fidelity International.
5.00 Marco Polo. The fourth of the serial based on the life of the Venetian adventurer (r).
5.00 Conference Report. Glyn Matthews reviews the day's proceedings at the Labour Party Conference in Brighton.
5.30 Cat. A surrealist film illustrating the awesome power of a volcanic eruption (r).
7.00 Channel 4 News with Trevor McDonald and Nicholas Owen.
7.50 Countdown and Weather.
8.00 Equinox: Malthus. (See Choice)
9.00 Big Game is Dead, by Michael Albers (see Choice)
10.05 My Brother Tom. Episode one of a two-part Australian drama about family feuds in a small township split by religion. Starring Michael Jackson and Kevin Mitchell.
11.55 First Frame: Lila Muttar. A young German computer trainee arrives in London to attend a symposium and meets a Scotsman. Directed by Michael Caton Jones.
12.45 Film: Il Primo (1979) starring Michele Placido. Drama, set in Tuscany, about a romantic relationship between a visiting Milanese lawyer, a clerk and her former lover. Directed by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani. Ends at 12.55.

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12.00 Business. Daily. Business and financial news service.
12.30 Just 4 Fun. Three short programmes for young children.
1.00 Powerlines. The second of the Open College programme, examining electricity. Today - how electronics are made to do work and an explanation of George Ohm's law. (Oracle)
1.30 The Business of the Open College series aimed at senior and middle management (r). (Oracle)
2.00 Snooker. Quarter-final action in the Fidelity International.
2.30 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. Brough Scott introduces coverage of the Main Real Stakes (2.35); the Blackstock and General Insurance Stakes (3.05); and the Jersey Club Cup (3.40).
4.00 Snooker. Further coverage of the Fidelity International.
5.00 Marco Polo. The fourth of the serial based on the life of the Venetian adventurer (r).
5.00 Conference Report. Glyn Matthews reviews the day's proceedings at the Labour Party Conference in Brighton.
5.30 Cat. A surrealist film illustrating the awesome power of a volcanic eruption (r).
7.00 Channel 4 News with Trevor McDonald and Nicholas Owen.
7.50 Countdown and Weather.
8.00 Equinox: Malthus. (See Choice)
9.00 Big Game is Dead, by Michael Albers (see Choice)
10.05 My Brother Tom. Episode one of a two-part Australian drama about family feuds in a small township split by religion. Starring Michael Jackson and Kevin Mitchell.
11.55 First Frame: Lila Muttar. A young German computer trainee arrives in London to attend a symposium and meets a Scotsman. Directed by Michael Caton Jones.
12.45 Film: Il Primo (1979) starring Michele Placido. Drama, set in Tuscany, about a romantic relationship between a visiting Milanese lawyer, a clerk and her former lover. Directed by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani. Ends at 12.55.

Shopper's Disneyland

TELEVISION CHOICE

There are more enclosed shopping centres in the United States than schools, hospitals, hotels or cinemas. The Americans call them malls and malls (Chanel 4, 8.00pm) takes a look at them. They began in the early 1950s, spawned by the movement of people out of towns and cities, rising incomes and the rapid increase in car ownership. There were high-minded hopes that the malls would develop into wider social and cultural centres. The reality has been rather different. The malls are peopled either by bored young girls ("mall rats") or self-styled credit card junkies. The malls are a shopper's Disneyland, creating their own fantasy world. One mall has a chapel, reaching out to the mindless spenders and trying to save their souls. If one woman is to be believed, the evangelists had better move quickly. "American malls," she declares, "are a sign of the decline of Western civilization, one of the clues that Armageddon is right around the corner."

Launching a series of dramas by black writers and directors, Big George Is Dead (Channel 4, 9.00pm) has Norman Beaton and Rudolph Walker as old friends spending a night in Soho, trying to recreate the glorious memory of their youth in the 1960s. But as the night wears on, it becomes obvious that there

Radio 1

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 6.55pm, then at 7.00am and 12.00pm.
6.30 Adam and John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 7.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (an Perkins) 12.45 Gary Davies 1.00 Steve Wright 1.30 Newsbeat 1.45 Bruno Brookes 2.30 Janice Long 3.00 Peeling Back The Years (John Peel with John Walters) 4.00 John Peel 4.30 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 2. 10.00pm As Radio 1. 12.00am As Radio 2.

Radio 2

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the hour from 6.30am until 6.55pm.
6.30 Adam and John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 7.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (an Perkins) 12.45 Gary Davies 1.00 Steve Wright 1.30 Newsbeat 1.45 Bruno Brookes 2.30 Janice Long 3.00 Peeling Back The Years (John Peel with John Walters) 4.00 John Peel 4.30 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 2. 10.00pm As Radio 1. 12.00am As Radio 2.

Radio 3

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the hour from 6.30am until 6.55pm.
6.30 Adam and John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 7.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (an Perkins) 12.45 Gary Davies 1.00 Steve Wright 1.30 Newsbeat 1.45 Bruno Brookes 2.30 Janice Long 3.00 Peeling Back The Years (John Peel with John Walters) 4.00 John Peel 4.30 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 2. 10.00pm As Radio 1. 12.00am As Radio 2.

Radio 4

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the hour from 6.30am until 6.55pm.
6.30 Adam and John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 7.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (an Perkins) 12.45 Gary Davies 1.00 Steve Wright 1.30 Newsbeat 1.45 Bruno Brookes 2.30 Janice Long 3.00 Peeling Back The Years (John Peel with John Walters) 4.00 John Peel 4.30 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 2. 10.00pm As Radio 1. 12.00am As Radio 2.

Radio 5

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
News on the hour from 6.30am until 6.55pm.
6.30 Adam and John 7.00 Mike Smith's Breakfast Show 7.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (an Perkins) 12.45 Gary Davies 1.00 Steve Wright 1.30 Newsbeat 1.45 Bruno Brookes 2.30 Janice Long 3.00 Peeling Back The Years (John Peel with John Walters) 4.00 John Peel 4.30 Andy Kershaw. VHF Stereo Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am As Radio 2. 10.00pm As Radio 1. 12.00am As Radio 2.



Norman Beaton (left) and Rudolph Walker in Big George Is Dead on Channel 4, at 9.00pm

can be no going back. The era is as dead as the third friend, Big George, whose funeral opens the play. A study of friendship and loyalty, and how they stand up to changing circumstances, Big George Is Dead was written by Michael Albers, whose Empire Road was a pioneering attempt at situation comedy with black characters.

Peter Waymark

Radio 3

- 6.35 Open University: State and Society
6.55 Weather 7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert: Delius (Marche caprice: RPO), Beethoven (Variations on Beethoven, which Liszt Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Emanuel Ax, piano), Mozart (Symphony No 41: Prague CO) 8.00 News
8.05 Morning Concert (cont): Sullivan (Overture of Ballerina: Chopin (Four Studies for 25, Nos 9 to 12: Louis Lortie, piano), Debussy (Nocturnes: Ambrosius Chorus with LSO)
8.00 World Service News
8.10 This Week's Composer: Carl Maria von Weber. Grand duo concert, 1816 (Richard Stoltzman, clarinet with Emanuel Ax, piano), Polacca brillante, 1818 (Paul Crossley, piano), Act 2 finale of Der Freischütz (Dresden State Orchestra under Kleiber, with soloists including Thomas Adam, Peter Schreier)
8.05 Enescu and Ysaye: Sherran Lupu (violin), Claude Cyrenne (piano), Enescu (Sonata in a minor, Op 25 No 3), Ysaye (Solo Sonata No 3, Ballade), Saint-Saens (Etude en forme de valse, arranged by Ysaye)
10.45 Kertész conducts Brahms: LSO play Sereade No 1 SO. The soloists are: violin, radio broadcasts
11.35 BBC Welsh SO under Simon John, with Melissa Phipps (cello), Martin (The Cello Concerto, and the overture Alfia)
1.00 News
1.05 Birmingham Lunchtime Concert: Philip Mead (piano) plays Mozart's Sonata in E flat major, K 282: Beethoven's Sonata in A minor, Op 10 No 3: and Liszt's 2nd piano: St Francis de Paula marchant sur les flots Shostakovich and Bridge: Borodin Spring Quartet play Shostakovich's Quartet No 6, and Bridge's Quartet No 3
2.55 Haydn: a performance of The Creation. Sung in German, Mogens Woldike conducts the Danish Radio Chorus. The soloists are: Morison, Alexander Young and John Holmes
3.00 World Service News
3.10 Mainly for Pleasure: Jeremy Siepmann presents a selection of recorded music. Pleading, including O softly sing: Crowned with flowers; and Surprised you youthful aspheredness
7.00 World Service News
11.57 News 12.00 Cee-fax

Radio 4

- 6.35 Open University: State and Society
6.55 Weather 7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert: Delius (Marche caprice: RPO), Beethoven (Variations on Beethoven, which Liszt Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Emanuel Ax, piano), Mozart (Symphony No 41: Prague CO) 8.00 News
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Radio 5

- 6.35 Open University: State and Society
6.55 Weather 7.00 News
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Radio 6

- 6.35 Open University: State and Society
6.55 Weather 7.00 News
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7.00 World Service News
11.57 News 12.00 Cee-fax

Radio 7

- 6.35 Open University: State and Society
6.55 Weather 7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert: Delius (Marche caprice: RPO), Beethoven (Variations on Beethoven, which Liszt Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Emanuel Ax, piano), Mozart (Symphony No 41: Prague CO) 8.00 News
8.05 Morning Concert (cont): Sullivan (Overture of Ballerina: Chopin (Four Studies for 25, Nos 9 to 12: Louis Lortie, piano), Debussy (Nocturnes: Ambrosius Chorus with LSO)
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Radio 8

Conference Sketch
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Later, in a
black and
white photo,
Mr. Brown
was seen
with a group
of people
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with a large
chandelier.
He was
wearing a
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a white shirt.
The photo was
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The photo was
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PART 2

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1853.7 (+3.9)

FT-SE 100
2366.0 (-2.3)

Bargains
35856 (37458)

USM (Datastream)
221.73 (-0.37)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6270 (-0.0010)

W German mark
2.9937 (-0.0010)

Trade-weighted
73.1 (same)

Equiticorp GP stake 'over 50%'

Equiticorp, the New Zealand company, has more than 50 per cent of Guinness Peat, the merchant banking group, after further purchases in the stock market. But last night it could not yet declare its £356 million bid unconditional as the purchases had not been ratified.

Equiticorp lifted its holding in GP from 44.23 per cent to 47.74 per cent on Tuesday and returned yesterday for enough to take it past 50 per cent. It needs acceptance, however, for another 5.78 per cent by Saturday's closing date to go unconditional without extending its offer.

£10m Ashley

Laura Ashley, the fashion retail chain, increased pretax profits in the six months to August 1, from £8.7 million to £10.1 million, on turnover up 21 per cent to £93.6 million. An interim dividend of 0.85p was declared. Details, page 26

Holmes ahead

Holmes Protection Group, the New York electronic protection services company formerly known as SCUSA, registered a 17.5 per cent increase in pretax profits to \$7.05 million (£4.3 million) in the six months to the end of June.

Fosco leaps

Fosco Mincep, the specialist chemicals group, made pretax profits of £16.4 million in the half year to end-June, up 24 per cent. Earnings per share were 25 pence higher and the interim dividend was raised to 3.5p (2.95p).

Tempus, page 26

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2898.99 (+3.42)
Dow Jones	2898.99 (+3.42)
Nikkei Average	2801.88 (+12.88)
Hang Seng	3943.84 (+84.18)
Amsterdam	3112.03 (-0.3)
Sydney	2247.6 (-16.1)
Frankfurt	1984.1 (-12.1)
Brussels	6128.5 (-11.8)
Paris	410.4 (-6.3)
Zurich	622.8 (-1.5)
London	
FT 30 All-Share	1853.7 (+3.9)
FT 100	2366.0 (-2.3)
FT Gold Mines	453.1 (-3.8)
FT Food Interest	21.61 (+2.15)
FT Govt Sec	85.55 (+0.34)
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MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Hitler	1270p (+350)
Whittington	388p (+230)
Matthew Brown	588p (+220)
Vaux	588p (+220)
Henderson	349p (+300)
J Smurfit	617p (+370)
Campari	278p (+210)
Black Arrow	583p (+450)
Highland Props.	336p (+350)
Calor	488p (+250)
Rosemount	1125p (+400)
Pavilion Leisure	475p (+750)
English China	566p (+150)
Blue Circle	477p (+110)
Yorkshire TV	334p (+140)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	10%
3-month Interbank	10 1/4-10 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	9 1/2-9 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds 7 1/2%	
3-month Treasury Bills	6.57-6.58%
30-year bonds	9 1/2-9 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.6270	\$ £0.6145
£ DM2.9937	DM £1.3385
£ FF18.4825	FF £1.3385
£ FF18.9735	FF £1.3385
£ Yen238.11	Yen £1.4847
£ Index 73.1	Index 102.1
ECU £0.659890	SDR £0.785675

GOLD

London Fixing	\$459.50
AM \$459.15	PM \$459.50
close \$459.00-459.50	(2281.75-2282.25)
New York	
Comex \$458.80-459.10	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Nov.)	pm \$18.60bbl (\$18.53)
* Denotes latest trading price	
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صباح الخير

THE TIMES

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SPORT 42-46

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1 1987

Exchange rate reform urged Lawson seeks formal currency regime

From Rodney Lord and Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, yesterday proposed major changes in the international monetary system through a permanent system of managing exchange rates.

His proposals were accompanied by new ideas from Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, on linking exchange rates to a basket of currencies, including gold.

If adopted, they could signal the most far-reaching international monetary reform since the collapse of the Bretton Woods fixed exchange rate system in 1973.

Mr Lawson, addressing the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, said he did not see the period of official exchange rate management since the Plaza Meeting in September 1985 as a temporary phase but expected it to continue permanently.

James Baker called for a new version of the Gold Standard. He said the US was prepared to consider using commodity prices, including gold, and their relationship to national currencies, as an indicator for the co-ordination of policies.

The proposal, certain to be applauded by President Reagan's conservative supporters, was designed to calm fears that the present system of managed exchange rates would reignite inflation.

In emphasizing the permanent role of exchange rate stability, Mr Lawson appeared to be seeking a strengthened anchor for counter-inflationary policy in Britain and the rest of the world. He said the emphasis should switch from indicators for the economic performance of individual countries within the Group of Seven to indicators of the group's performance as a whole.

"We must ensure that there is no persistent inflationary (or for that matter deflationary) bias for the group as a whole," Mr Lawson said. This could be helped by developing

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indicators for the G7, which would be mainly financial but also pay attention to the trend of world commodity prices.

Policy should be set in a nominal framework, either in terms of a path for the money GDP growth of the G7 countries or the average inflation rate. This should have a medium-term perspective and not become an exercise in fine tuning.

Mr Lawson proposed a limit on any necessary exchange rate changes within the system of stability agreed in the Louvre Accord so that the mid-point of any new range should be within the existing

range. He said it was possible to see a time when the present official exchange rate bands could be revealed, when the system had sufficient credibility. But that was some way off.

With hindsight, the argument for free floating was less compelling. Internationalization of capital markets had tended to lead to exchange rates overshooting, the Chancellor said. The objectives should be to maintain maximum stability of key exchange rates and to manage any necessary changes in an orderly way. In spite of initial scepticism, the Louvre Accord had been "a triumphant success."

The Bretton Woods system had been undermined by its rigidity with margins too narrow and the response of the authorities too mechanical and predictable.

Fears about the imbalance of current accounts need not undermine the system, Mr Lawson said. "It is the familiar J-curve and although the imbalances remain large, trade volumes are adjusting."

Although there were limits to the accumulation of external assets or liabilities, there was no law that said the current accounts of the leading industrial countries had to be in balance. It would be a serious mistake to seek a short cut by further dollar depreciation, the Chancellor said.

Tesco rings up £90.6m

By Colin Campbell

Tesco, the supermarket group that acquired the Hillards chain in May, yesterday reported a 38.5 per cent improvement in interim pretax profits to £90.6 million. It said current trading is going well and the pre-Christmas peak period should mean good results for the year as a whole.

Mr Ian MacLaurin, chairman, said that with the benefit of higher efficiencies and new product lines, net margins improved from 4.1 per cent to 5.1 per cent in the 24 weeks ended August, on sales (including VAT) that rose by 13.2 per cent to £1.89 billion.

The interim dividend rises from 0.85p to 1p a share, and the stock market reaction was generally favourable. The shares rose from 193p to touch 198p before settling back to 196p. Market analysts are anticipating year-end profits - in the £225 million region, against a comparable £169.1 million in the financial year ended February, and said Tesco's interim results had lived up to their expectations.

Tesco, operating out of 375 stores with a net selling area of 7.81 million sq ft, plans a further 14 stores and three extensions this financial year, and initial plans for next year's development programme suggest 17 sites and three extensions.

Mr MacLaurin told The Times that Tesco was anxious to expand abroad, should the right opportunity come along, and that group executives had been looking at the US market with acquisitions in mind for some time. "But while we are always on the look-out for all sorts of opportunities for the group, we are in no hurry to dash overseas."

The group has introduced a number of new value-added lines throughout its outlets, and has a target of 1,000 new



Looking overseas: Tesco's MacLaurin keen to expand abroad

product lines for the year as a whole.

Joint site development with Marks and Spencer was going well, and Hillards - acquired after a hard-fought £223 million battle, had already been well absorbed.

Mr MacLaurin said Hillards had proved a "stunning purchase for Tesco," and that the new acquisition was fully expected to make the £15 million forecast at the time of

the takeover battle. Tesco has already spent £4 million on refitting Hillards stores in the Tesco image, and planned a further £6 million to cater for refrigeration needs.

Own-label lines within Tesco now account for almost 90 per cent of fresh foods handled, and for 40 per cent of the can and packet grocery items. Tesco has no plans to introduce its own shopping card, the chairman said. Tempus, page 26

S&N sets out to swallow Brown

By Michael Tate

Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, the McEwans beer to Thistle hotels group, is making a third attempt to take over Matthew Brown, the Blackburn brewery and public house chain group, with a fresh bid that values Brown at £194.5 million.

S&N owns 29.7 per cent of Brown, a legacy from its closely-fought, but unsuccessful, bids in 1985. At one point the group, based in Edinburgh, actually claimed to have more than 50 per cent of Brown, but was forced to hand back some shares by the Takeover Panel.

Yesterday's bid re-opened hostilities between the two adversaries, and another battle just as fierce as its predecessors is in prospect.

Mr Patrick Townsend, the Brown chairman, declared the offer "unwelcome," adding that his board felt that the continued independence of the company was in the best interests of the customers, shareholders, and employees.

S&N wants to increase its presence in the north west, and gain access to Brown's 520 public houses.

S&N's terms - three shares for one - were worth 786p for the bid went out, and were backed by a 750p cash alternative. This is 226p above the final offer in 1985. Mr Alick Rankin, S&N chairman, said:

"Not if you remember S&N's terms then," retorts Brown's adviser, Schroder Wagg. "Their 16-for-5 terms would today value Brown shares at 838p apiece."

Mr Rankin is keen to emphasize that S&N's trading performance has been somewhat better than Brown's over the past 18 months. He has been free to return for Brown for some nine months, but claims to have been goaded into action by last May's news of a downturn in Brown's half-year profits, and its recent £12.6 million acquisition of a 50 per cent stake in the Langdale Group, a time-share business.

Langdale's vendors were issued with a 2 per cent holding in Brown, on condition that the shares were not committed to any bid that had not already gone unconditional. Such a stake could be crucial if the battle is fought to as close a finish as the last one.

Mr Rankin denied that his offer was motivated by defensive considerations, as rumours of interest from groups like Elders and Anheuser Busch continue to flourish.

Analysis believe it will once again be a close run thing, with Mr Rankin forced to pay more for victory. Brown shares closed at 780p.

Baker plan to fight debt

From Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent, Washington

Mr James Baker, the United States Treasury Secretary, yesterday announced a package aimed at revitalizing his flagging Third World debt initiative.

It includes an IMF facility to help debtors with unforeseen financial problems, an increased role for the World Bank, and the promise that regulations constricting banks in the handling of debt may be eased.

The package takes a stage further the growing official encouragement for banks to find more flexible methods of dealing with Third World debt.

Addressing the IMF meeting, Mr Baker reaffirmed the underlying principles of his debt strategy unveiled two years ago. These include policies for economic growth in debtor countries supported by increased lending by industrialized countries, negotiated on a case by case basis.

Mr Baker proposed the creation of a new External Contingency Facility out of existing IMF resources to help cushion the effects on IMF programmes of economic setbacks in debtor countries. Falling commodity prices, lower exports, natural disasters and rises in interest rates have often blown IMF development programmes off course, he said.

The proposal was met with scepticism by developing country officials who said that the new fund, which is to replace the Compensatory Financing Facility, would be too small to have much effect, and included no new financing. It was unlikely to be more than \$1 billion they said.

Mr Baker also announced measures to reinforce the

growth orientation of fund programmes. This would enable commercial banks to ease their lending on the quality of debtor country programmes rather than on "rigid linkages to IMF disbursements."

Increased World Bank lending would be backed by an increase in its capital but the bank should also play a more active advisory role. It should encourage Third World investment by institutions such as insurance and pension funds and should strengthen its role in promoting debt/equity swaps among commercial banks.

Mr Baker urged greater flexibility in the debt strategy, outlining a series of options which should be included in the "menu" approach to rescheduling debt. The menu gives creditors and debtors a range of options

on the initial share sale has long threatened to push foreign holdings above the 15 per cent level. The restriction was written into the company's articles of association because of Rolls-Royce's involvement in defence contracts.

Worried that this ceiling was being breached, Rolls-Royce last month told foreign investors that those who paid their second instalment ahead of the September 23 deadline had a better chance of staying on the register if the total foreign shareholding topped 15 per cent, since any enforced sale of foreign-held shares would be carried out on a last in/first out basis.

Mr Clegg refused to rule out going over the heads of Sir Terence and his board. "It is not our style to make a hostile bid. We try hard to avoid it. I wouldn't totally rule it out, but consider it a last resort."

After the meeting, Mr Clegg said he had not been in contact with the Storehouse board but admitted his decision to start buying the shares had been prompted by the surprise weekend bid for Storehouse from the tiny Benlox engineering group.

And he had a warning for City experts who have scoffed at the David and Goliath contest. "In the end Benlox will need to be taken seriously," he said.

There was once again heavy trading in Storehouse shares yesterday. They finished 3p down at 404p after touching 416p.

Former Ferries chief goes to Highland

By Alison Eadie

Mr Geoffrey Parker, the former chairman and chief executive of European Ferries, has joined Mr Peter de Savary's Highland Participants as chief executive.

Mr Parker is investing £500,000 by subscribing for 180,000 new shares in Highland at 280p each.

Mr de Savary said that Mr Parker's 27 years experience in the transport, shipping and harbour industry would be invaluable to help in developing Highland Participants as an integrated operation concentrating on energy and transportation.

Highland Participants recently made an offer for the



Highlander: Geoffrey Parker A&P Appleford Group, which operates the Falmouth docks and harbour.

Mr Parker was previously a director of the Harwich Harbour Board and of the Port of Felixstowe.

Foreign R-R investors face enforced sell-off

By Joe Joseph

Foreign investors in Rolls-Royce whose second instalment for the partly paid shares arrived after September 14 will probably have to sell their shares, the company said.

The forced sale is needed to bring foreign holdings below the 15 per cent ceiling imposed by the Government when the aero-engine maker was privatized in May.

Rolls-Royce said that by September 23, the final day for payment of the 85p balance of the 170p share price, foreign-held shares represented 21 per cent of the share register.

A wave of foreign buying of Rolls-Royce shares from investors who had missed out

Manhattan Transfer

An association has been formed between Baker Harris Saunders in London and Richard Sykes & Partners in New York.

The link will enable both companies to offer continuity of advice on commercial property and to market major office developments in both cities.

Richard Sykes & Partners 280 Park Ave. New York.

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Mountleigh calm before the takeover storm

Clegg still cagey on Storehouse

By Cliff Fetham

By a common twist of fate, the very time a company chairman would prefer to remain quietly in the background coincides with an enforced excursion into the public arena.

So yesterday Mr Tony Clegg, boss and driving force of the Mountleigh property group, emerged at the Savoy Hotel to host the annual shareholders' meeting - while the City waited to find out why he had been buying shares again in the Storehouse retail group, less than a week after calling off £1.8 billion takeover talks.

But the cagey Mr Clegg did little to dispel the renewed speculation that he is taking a few deep breaths before plunging in with a bid, this time without the backing of Sir Terence Conran and his board.

The appointment of Barclays de Zoete Wedd as joint brokers with Phillips & Drew, to give the group extra market muscle, reinforces suspicion that Mr Clegg is buying shares in Storehouse for motives other than what he euphemistically calls their "investment value."

He confirmed that Mountleigh had

indeed been back in the stock market buying another block of Storehouse shares at an average price of 387.7p, to lift his total to 9.25 million or 24 per cent of the equity.

"We were prepared to consider making an offer of 445p for the company, so it is hardly surprising that we should be interested buying at this level," he told his shareholders, many of whom appeared somewhat bewildered to find themselves owners of a former sleepy textile business now run by property tycoons engaged in deals of this magnitude.

He also rebutted accusations that he had planned an asset-stripping operation for Storehouse, which takes in British Home Stores and Mothercare.

"We decided that the collection of businesses wasn't working to the best advantage of shareholders and would be better put back into constituent parts and sold into hands better suited. It wasn't asset-stripping. The vast majority of the employees would have more secure futures. We made our tentative approaches and were rebuffed."

"We believe the board perhaps acted in their interests rather than the best interests of shareholders. Any board has at least the obligation to look at the offer on the table and see if there is a reasonable chance of shareholders seeing that price in, say, 12 months."

Mr Clegg refused to rule out going over the heads of Sir Terence and his board. "It is not our style to make a hostile bid. We try hard to avoid it. I wouldn't totally rule it out, but consider it a last resort."

After the meeting, Mr Clegg said he had not been in contact with the Storehouse board but admitted his decision to start buying the shares had been prompted by the surprise weekend bid for Storehouse from the tiny Benlox engineering group.

And he had a warning for City experts who have scoffed at the David and Goliath contest. "In the end Benlox will need to be taken seriously," he said.

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'Royal Event' unit campaign poised for a huge success

By Peter Gardland
Family Money Editor

The "Royal Event" which closed at 5pm yesterday looks like being the most successful marketing campaign ever in the unit trust industry.

The "Royal Event" is the packaging for a £5.9 million television and press advertising blitz which has dominated the retail financial services sector during September.

But the advertising combined with the privatization style of the campaign has caught the public's imagination and turned Royal Life Fund Management, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Royal Insurance Group, into a high

profile and highly controversial company.

Industry figures of the scale of Royal's achievement, as high as £700 million, differ markedly from Royal's own conservative target of £300 million.

The advertising budget will have been money well spent. Unit trust watchers point to the contrast between a £5.9 million spend to acquire at least £300 million of fund money and the £41.5 million paid out by MIM Britannia last month to buy the £400 million of County unit trust funds from the National Westminster Bank.

With a minimum investment of £250 in a choice of three risk-rated international funds, Royal's total launch take from an estimated 150,000 new investors could in theory be less than £40 million. But earlier this week money was coming in at the rate of more than £40 million a day, including at least three individual investments of £500,000 each.

But the "Royal Event" has not been plain sailing. The company has attracted a string of criticism from its competitors. Attacks on Royal's privatization-type approach prompted the company to commission a market research survey which found there was

little, if any, confusion between what was being offered by Royal compared to the BP privatization.

There could also be problems from customers. Royal says it will look sympathetically at giving the 1 per cent launch discount on applications which missed yesterday's deadline if they were posted at least 24 hours earlier but warn they may be constrained by their trustees, Chase Manhattan Bank.

Royal says it can cope with the administration involved in processing £300 million of investors' money and has contingency plans for higher amounts.

Chemical industry 'world class'

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The British chemical industry, facing a continuing threat from imports, is now world class, and faces a "golden opportunity to build an even more successful industry," according to the Economic Development Committee for the sector.

In a report published yesterday, the EDC says the restructuring carried out by many companies, the great improvements in the efficiency of plant operations and construction, and recent movements in exchange rates have left British products more competitive in many markets already.

Lord Gregson, executive director of Fairley Holdings, and the EDC chairman, said: "The industry's technology, innovation, management and marketing are second to none. It therefore has a solid foundation to build on. Conditions have turned in its favour."

Last year, the industry had a trade surplus of £530 million in commodity organic products, but the deficit in plastics grew from £280 million in 1985 to £350 million.

The report says consideration is now needed on substitution of plastics imports by British production, utilizing for raw materials existing ethylene capacity. It says no incremental capacity expansion in western Europe is likely in plastics before the mid-1990s.

Among the report's recommendations are a call on the British industry to re-evaluate the potential for investment here, and on the Government to provide attractive incentives for research and investment.

Thinking aloud to a new Bretton Woods

The currency plans outlined by Nigel Lawson and the US Treasury Secretary James Baker yesterday suggest a reversal of thinking which could have profound effects on international financial markets and world trade - if anything comes of them. At the very least, they mean that currency management is here to stay.

Until recently, the United States and Britain have been the most suspicious opponents of institutionalized currency management systems, let alone fixed targets. In the United States, the objection had been basically ideological; in Britain, it is the legacy of bitter experience of stop-go policies under the old Bretton Woods system of fixed exchange rates.

Now, the leading trading nations have experience of another currency management system: the informal agreements for central banks to pool their resources in the short-term, first to burst the dollar bubble after the Plaza Hotel accord two years ago and then - at the Louvre accord in February - to stabilize the dollar after its ensuing precipitate fall. The system has been effective so far despite the huge quantities of international capital which theoretically threaten to swamp the efforts of the authorities.

But it has only held the line. Trade imbalances spawned by wild currency fluctuations have caused further destabilization. Free trade and capital movements broke the old fixed rate system. Now yo-yoing exchange rates are destroying free trade.

Stabler currencies have not yet corrected trade imbalances. As the Chancellor and many others acknowledge, there is more to correcting imbalances once they have built up than adjusting exchange rates. After the dramatic movements already seen, further dollar falls merely promise renewed inflation.

Bretton Woods but much greater flexibility.

The Chancellor, whose proposals are more coherent, addressed the pressing question of the relationship between currencies. In the Lawson view, collective exchange rate management should be permanent but should be more systematic than the ad hoc Plaza and Louvre deals. A permanent arrangement should have three key features. Currency bands should be published, currency adjustments should be engineered by moving the mid-point for a currency within the existing range - as under the old crawling peg system - and economic policy in the Group of Seven should be conducted in the framework of medium-term goals for inflation and/or growth among the Group as a whole.

Mr Baker has addressed the other problem of floating exchange rates: that they offer no protection against inflation. To remedy this, Mr Baker wants to try to keep a stable relationship between the main reserve currency - the dollar - and an index of dollar-denominated commodity prices, including gold. Rapid changes in the index would suggest changes in US interest rates to resist the implied inflation or slump in world trade.

The Bretton Woods system also had two parts. The dollar had a fixed price against gold and other currencies had fixed (but moveable) prices against the dollar. Taking Lawson and Baker together would restore the same principle on an updated basis.

This thought alone is likely to jerk the gold market into a life it has not had since the early years after the abandonment of the dollar/gold standard in 1971. But after the oil shocks, it would clearly be nonsense for gold to play a predominant part in a commodity index.

It is unlikely that Mr Lawson or Mr Baker are thinking in any such terms as a new fully fledged market-based Bretton Woods at the moment. But that is where their thoughts point. And that immediately raises tough questions. It is now barely remembered that the Bretton Woods system was supposed to be a mechanism for currencies to adjust in an orderly fashion. In practice, it became a recipe for freezing currencies as governments battled with speculators and played about with their domestic economies instead. Despite the generally good experience of the European Monetary System, it is likely that, as soon as currency bands are published, speculation will become more concerted and Plaza/Louvre style management much harder. A commodity index, though intended to be used flexibly, could equally become a rigid target for markets. Any coherent system is therefore likely to be some way off.

Laura Ashley fails to impress

By Alexandra Jackson

Laura Ashley's performance in the six months to August 1 was below the company's and the stock market's expectations, pushing the shares down 6p yesterday to 188p.

Operating profits rose by 29 per cent to £10.4 million and enjoyed a wider margin at 11.1 per cent, but the pretax advance, to £10.1 million, was a less impressive 15 per cent.

Mr John James has been promoted from the role of group managing director, a post he has held for seven years, to chief executive and vice chairman.

Mr Peter Phillips, group finance director, said interest costs were higher as spending peaked on the newly-commissioned textile printing plant at Newtown, Wales.

Start-up costs knocked £150,000 off profits while £300,000 in design costs were carried for the August launch of the US "Mother and Child" retail chain. The 8 per cent

movement in the US dollar reduced profits by a further £60,000.

An interim dividend of 0.85p was declared, compared with 0.75p last time.

The group opened 33 outlets in the half year and now sells from 325 outlets. By the year-end, Laura Ashley will have added another 36 outlets, taking the total to 361. Of these, 138 shops will be in North America (two more than in Britain), 62 in Europe and seven in Japan.

Underlying growth in the domestic market was 5 per cent on overall sales up 25 per cent. A similar trend was seen in the US while in Europe, growth was 8 per cent as sales moved up 22 per cent.

Investment in new technology continues apace and the group plans to computerize 20 per cent of its cutting work and has accelerated the fabric design function with a £1.25 million computer



Expanding abroad: Peter Phillips and John James

Local London in £28m cash call

By Cliff Feltham

Shareholders in Local London Group, the fast-expanding property company which now runs 19 business centres accommodating more than 1,000 firms, are being asked to raise £28 million to help pay for the next stage of its expansion.

Local London, which recently took over Standard Securities, is now paying £7.1 million for Samplemedium, a private company which owns 12 apartment blocks in and around London and Manchester.

The rights issue - on the basis of one new share at 735p

for every four already held - will enable Local London to pay for the development of some of its business centre activities.

These have grown from 10 at the end of last year to 19 at present. The latest include a business centre near Fleet Street, and completion of a joint development with British Land in the City of London to provide a total of 110 units.

Local London also reported an increase in pretax profits for the opening half of the year from £1.4 million to £2.4 million.

IDC hopes for licence at year end

International Digital Communications, a consortium to which Cable and Wireless belongs, yesterday officially applied for a licence to operate a telecommunications business in Japan.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, accepting the application, promised a fair analysis of it and the rival ITJ application.

According to IDC, it is expected that the ministry will take until December to consider it. Once accepted, IDC is confident that a licence will be granted by the ministry before the end of the year.

Plea for increased research spending

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Industrial companies should spend more to support collaborative research in universities, says Professor Eric Ash, the new president of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) and rector of the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

Competition could be enhanced if the percentage of industry research budgets spent in universities was increased significantly, he said in his inaugural address last night.

Support rarely amounted to more than 1 or 2 per cent, while some big companies

contributed less than 1 per cent. Professor Ash said: "It is simply not credible that this low level of support is an objective assessment of the relative research resources, particularly human resources, in industry and in academia. Clearly this under-use of academia is bad for UK plc."

The percentage spending would vary from industry to industry but he believed the optimum amount should be between 2 and 10 per cent.

He did, however, welcome recent improvements in collaboration between industry and the academic world.

ARC sets its sights on America

By Our Industrial Correspondent

ARC, the building materials group which has just taken over America's fifth largest aggregate company in a £145 million deal, is poised to make similar investments in the United States in the coming year.

The British company, part of the Consolidated Gold Fields group, has just announced record 1986-87 profits of £86 million and is heading for another record figure in the current year.

With future growth in Britain relatively restricted, the company has set its sights firmly on US expansion.

The takeover of American Aggregate Corporation for \$222 million (£137.03 million) has given ARC another 25 million tonnes of aggregate capacity. The company is market leader in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan and has two billion tonnes of reserves.

Mr Charles Spence, the ARC chairman, said yesterday that the company's share of the domestic market was now

approaching levels "where we would be denied an opportunity to expand. We would be happy to repeat the American Aggregate deal as quickly as we can."

ARC and other British aggregate and building material companies have launched a large invasion of the US industry in recent years and according to Mr Simon Brown, Prudential-Spence, the broker, they have spent £4.5 billion to £5 billion on takeovers. British companies now control about 52 per cent of the American cement industry.

Mr Keith Orrell-Jones, ARC's chief executive, said that future US investments would be concentrated upon additional aggregate capacity. "The US market leader produces 80 million tonnes a year, so we have a long way to go before we become number one," he said.

In the United Kingdom, ARC claims 17 per cent of the aggregate market - it has just signed a contract to supply 1 million tonnes of turbine dredged aggregates for the Sizewell nuclear power station

Sotheby's under the hammer

The rumoured return to the stock market of Sotheby's, one of the largest and most prestigious auctioneers in the world, is, I hear, imminent. Whilst the firm was yesterday staying resolutely tight-lipped, I understand that its financial advisers - Lazard Brothers in Britain and Salomon Brothers in New York - are planning what is thought to be the first ever simultaneous listing of a company on both sides of the Atlantic. The company lost its quote on the London Stock Exchange almost exactly four years ago when Alfred Taubman, the American property multi-millionaire, bought up more than 90 per cent of the stock as part of an £83 million agreed bid. Earlier this month Sotheby's issued a statement confirming that it was "considering" a re-listing and that if it did so it would probably be "this autumn". Taubman, who now owns 60 per cent of the company, wants to refloat it so that he can issue share options to its 300 employees worldwide. A number of minority shareholders are also believed to be keen to realise their investments. But his plans have been complicated by an earlier assurance that Sotheby's would never again be subjected to a hostile takeover. Consequently, the transatlantic float is expected to have a two-tier voting structure, ensuring that existing shareholders continue to exercise control.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Football crazy

Is the yuppie, Perrier-swilling movement in the City going too far? Institutional advisers at stockbroker Paragon Gordon are exclaiming the traditional Square Mile luncheon for a more active rendezvous. Fifteen of them, plus assorted supporters, met a similar number of Norwich Union fund managers last night to play a deadly earnest game of football on QPR's notorious

Loftus Road plastic pitch. For those still trying to adjust to this new, healthy lifestyle, there was at least a bar afterwards. "It fits in with the 1980s," says food sector salesman Terry Sissons. "I did drink Perrier but people were able to drink what they liked." After last night's success, I am told other fund managers can look forward to similar challenges. Start training now...

Dog's life

Give your pooch a treat and take him to visit "Lick Your Chops" the ultimate in specialist retailing, now trading in Westport, Connecticut.



"Further exciting plans include enlarging my house, extending my racing stables and adding to my art collection"

Your dog or cat will apparently be able to choose from a wide range of deluxe fresh and tinned food as well as make use of on-the-spot services provided by the resident vet or \$100 a time portrait painter. But beware, "Lick Your Chops" is a franchise operation, so it is only a matter of time before it appears on this side of the Atlantic.

Guinness has certainly been good for Anthony Tennant, the company's new chief executive. A circular issued yesterday, reveals that the man who until recently earned just £140,000 at Grand Metropolitan got a pay rise on July 1 from Guinness bringing his salary up to £300,000. He has also been granted more than 300,000 Guinness share options exercisable at 319p against yesterday's market price of 372p. However, he still hasn't quite caught up with his predecessor, Ernest Saunders was on £350,000.

Personal touch

Is it any wonder that 16 of Britain's public company chairmen choose Clive Mattock, a partner of Fiske & Co, as the stockbroker to handle their personal portfolios? Mattock, who will be leaving Fiske after 14 years at the end of December - to assume an executive directorship at mini-merchant bank UTC, running its stockbroking arm UTC Securities - will be taking these accounts, ranging from Nazmu Virani and Tony Cole of Bestwood to Peter Clowes and Guy Cramer of James Ferguson, with him. His investment expertise is such that on each of her six birthdays so far he has bought £100 of penny shares for his god-daughter Lucy Wray, whose father Nigel became deputy chairman of Singer & Friedlander following its reverse takeover of his Gilbert House Investments earlier this month. The £600 of investments, which comprise, in purchasing order, Hampton Trust, BSG, Amalgamated Financial, Bennett & Fountain, Healthcare, James Ferguson and Rex Williams Leisure, are now worth a total of £5,311. "I will carry on until she's 18," says Mattock, who will no doubt now be inundated with godfather requests. "I've been doing the same for my own son, but he's only two."

Seen on the wall of one of the Stock Exchange boxes: options dealers do it until they expire.

Carol Leonard

De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited CDM (Pty) Limited

Granada TV Programme "World in Action"

Monday, 28th September, 1987

De Beers and CDM have already refuted and continue to refute the allegations which form the basis of the "World in Action" programme televised on Monday, 28th September.

1.

CDM denies that it pays no more than a nominal rental for the right to mine its Concession in Namibia. In total CDM's tax payments including the rental annually exceed 70% of operating profits which is consistent with the top rates of tax paid by the De Beers Group on any of its mines anywhere in the world. As a result CDM has for long been a major contributor to Namibia's revenues.

2.

De Beers and CDM strongly deny that they have overmined and secretly exported diamonds in anticipation of Namibia's independence. At no stage has CDM conducted mining operations other than in terms of its mining lease, nor has it mined higher grade reserves to the detriment of the life of the mine. On the contrary, the life has been extended continually by investment in new and innovative methods of mining and recovery. Granada claims that the mine will close in 1992. Current reserves indicate that the mine has a life of at least eleven years and it is hoped that on-going investment in prospecting should extend the life beyond the turn of the century.

3.

It is also incorrect that CDM understates the price of its diamonds for the purpose of export from Namibia and for calculation of Namibian tax or that no independent check is done on De Beers sorting and valuing of the diamonds. Long-standing independent verification procedures ensure that CDM and hence the Namibian state are receiving the Central Selling Organisation's selling price for the diamonds less an agreed margin. The arrangement is for the pricing and marketing of CDM's production are accordingly as favourable to CDM as to any other producer or producing country.

Submissions on these and other matters have been made to the Government Committee appointed to examine the Thirion Report and CDM looks forward to the publication of its findings, which it is understood will take place shortly.

30th September, 1987

Last month, we gave you our new address.

Today, we give you our new name.

What will we give you tomorrow?



(A clue.)

On September 1st, Scrimgeour Vickers moved across the Thames, and into the most spectacularly modern and well-equipped office building in London.

Now, a month later, another change in the way we present ourselves: because today we change our name to Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers.

Clearly, we're up to something.

In fact, these are simply two of the more visible signs of the ways that we're developing our business, to meet the rapidly-changing needs of today's securities industry.

And, in particular, to give you the opportunity to exploit the industry's fast-growing globalisation.

Citicorp's name stands for the new qualities which we're bringing to our existing strengths.

(Put Citicorp's capital resources, commitment to new technology and worldwide reach together with our unrivalled research, and you have quite an operation.)

As for our new offices, their impressive exterior is their least important feature; much more significant is that, inside, you'll find one of London's

biggest and best-equipped equity dealing rooms.

Meanwhile, our group's business continues to grow quickly - in volume, in the number of analysts (now over 200), and in the number of securities (now around 2,000) which they track.

So it's true that, today, we're giving you no more than the news of our new name.

But it's also true that, in a sense, that's part of giving you the world.

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صكنا من الامل

SR Gent turns loss to £1.4m profit

By Alison Eadie

The recovery at SR Gent, the clothing manufacturer, continued in the second half with pretax profits in the year to the end of June reaching £1.4 million against a loss of £1.2 million the previous year. Turnover rose 5 per cent to £88 million.

The company has changed its mix of products, cutting its reliance on dresses and increasing its range of casual-wear.

Its dependence on Marks and Spencer remains, with 90 per cent of turnover going to the high street chain.

Mr Bernard Adler, the finance director, said that the product transition was now complete. Far fewer dresses were being made, but casual-wear production was still at the development stage.

SR Gent supplies sportswear to Reebok, maker of

trainers, tennis shoes and other sporting footwear.

The company has also started to supply Marks and Spencer's new homeware departments, making bed-linen, scatter cushions, lighting and importing matching ceramics. The venture is still at the trial stage.

The dependence on Marks and Spencer is expected to continue, even though SR Gent is taking on other customers, as volume for Marks and Spencer is expected to keep pace with the sales to other customers.

SR Gent is paying a 0.645p final dividend, after passing last year's final.

Profits this year are expected to continue to recover and the City is looking for an outcome of £2.5 million to £3 million pretax, still some way from the record profits of more than £5 million achieved in 1984.

Coal chief warns industrial action could lose business

By Colin Narborough

Sir Robert Haslam, the British Coal chairman, yesterday gave a warning that a lengthy industrial action by the National Union of Mineworkers could cost the coal industry loyal customers.

The limited overtime ban the NUM has imposed in protest against British Coal's disciplinary rules, or "Code of Conduct", was particularly regrettable, coming just when the industry was showing signs of a "dynamic and bright" future, he told an anniversary lunch of the Domestic Coal Consumers Council in London.

Sir Robert identified the main challenge facing coal today as the highly competitive nature of the energy market.

After the collapse in oil prices, the cost of holding an important market such as the

power stations, which took three-quarters of British Coal's output, had been considerable.

In spite of the tough and costly competition with other fuels, British Coal had nevertheless lost only one leading customer in the general industrial market over the past year, he noted.

Coal-users, Sir Robert said, were impressed with the industry's improved productivity and had remained loyal.

"However, any prolonged industrial action would undermine customer confidence."



Sir Robert: ban 'regrettable'

Sir Robert expected that the launch at present of the new "Coal-flow" range of self-feeding boilers, backed by a £10 million advertising cam-

paign, would encourage more coal sales in the domestic, local authority and light industry markets.

A report published by the Royal Institute of International Affairs calls for the joint understanding between British Coal and the Central Electricity Generating Board to reflect lower world market prices for coal, as long as restraints remain on coal imports.

The CEBG imports about 1 million tonnes a year, while buying 80 million tonnes of British coal.

Mr Jonathan Stern, author of the report, argues that security of supply is no ground for pursuing a policy of complete self-sufficiency.

He says Britain could import up to a third of its coal by the end of the 1990s without risk.

BUSINESS SUMMARY

United Scientific set for £35m rights issue

United Scientific Holdings, the defence equipment manufacturer, is raising £35.6 million net from a rights issue to meet borrowings of about £32 million; pay for the purchase of Fernau Avionics, a maker of airfield navigational devices and to finance growth plans. Fernau is costing an initial £6 million, with additional payments of £3 million.

USH expects annual pretax profits to end-September of at least £11 million (£3.2 million). The final dividend is 4.2p, making 6.6p for the year.

MEPC wins Oldham

Property group MEPC's £516 million takeover bid for Oldham Estate, built up by Mr Harry Hyams, has closed with acceptances of 99.8 per cent. MEPC initially acquired 68 per cent and Mr Hyams pledged his 30 per cent stake.

Erith builds up to £1.9m

Erith, the builders' merchant, took advantage of buoyant demand in the South-east to make first-half pretax profits of £1.9 million, up 83 per cent, on turnover 27 per cent higher at £34.2 million. The interim dividend is 2p (1.3p).

Granada's £9.7m sale

Granada Group is disposing of Microcomputer Services to Businessland, an American company, for £9.7 million in cash. Microcomputer sells microcomputer products and provides service as a dealer for leading manufacturers such as IBM and Compaq through business centres in the South-east and North-west of England. Sales revenue is about £20 million a year.

Businessland is the largest non-franchised dealer in microcomputer products in the US, with sales revenue of \$600 million (£370 million) in the year to end-June. The deal for Microcomputer is its first venture outside the US.

Berkeley in £6m buy

Berkeley and Hay Hill Investments, the property and construction group, is buying WSJ (Holdings), a private housebuilder, for £6.8 million. Berkeley also reported pretax profits of £420,000 (£403,000) for the six months to end-June.

Silkolene up to £966,000

Silkolene Lubricants, the manufacturer and distributor of petroleum products, had a strong first half, pretax profits rising from £31,000 to £966,000 on turnover down from £11.9 million to £11.2 million. The interim dividend is 4p (3p).

Mint Group grows

Birmingham Mint Group, the security products and electrical engineering group, plans to raise £5 million through the combination of a share issue and a one-for-four rights issue at 21.5p a share in order to fund continued expansion.

The group has conditionally agreed to acquire Nevil Electric (Holdings) for an initial £2.8 million, to be satisfied by the issue of 1.31 million shares, and will raise £3.2 million through the rights issue. A further consideration, not exceeding £2.45 million, is payable depending on Nevil's profits in the two years to July, 1989. Nevil's business includes the manufacture of printed circuit boards.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

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COMMODITIES

THIRD MARKET

صلى الله عليه وسلم

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

October 1, 1987

Recently in these columns it was suggested that the fashionable preoccupation with graduates and hence an applicant's possession or otherwise of a degree was to be equated with laziness on the part of the recruiters and selectors. The point is taken about this "preoccupation" but its cause is seen as otherwise, and "laziness" as being too simplistic a reason.

It has to be appreciated that we are living with the consequences of the Robbins Report (Higher Education 1963), its interpretation and the implementation of that interpretation.

As many of us predicted and publicly stated at the time, its putting into effect has been something of a disaster — after all, as I picturesquely describe it from time to time when lecturing, if you create a situation in which you have a university in every town or village, small wonder that currently we are flooded with degree-holders, and it would, therefore, be flying in the face of our present environmental climate for recruiters and selectors to ignore completely this happenstance.

The pressure to assert a degree as being an essential requirement for a job is enormous. Not least, in Third World countries. This, of course, says nothing about the raised individual expectations that are also an inevitable consequence of the situation.

It is not mere hindsight to say that what was wanted at the time — although this is now generally recognized — was a massive increase in tertiary educational institutions of a vocational kind, more particularly with a technical/scientific and applied bias. In saying these things we also touch upon the true meaning and purpose of a university and the opportunities it provides, which are questions rarely asked by would-be and actual undergraduates and, one suspects, by the academics themselves.

I well remember when researching at Surrey University (one of the expansionist institutions) during the restless 1970s, seeing demonstrating university students hoisting high banners that read: "University education for all is a right." But is it? Was it? And should it ever be? Both then, and so many years earlier when an undergraduate, I had always regarded it as a privilege.

If my view is considered elitist, so be it, and this is to be thought of as snail? One thing I am certain about is that a university is not the meal ticket so many of the young have been encouraged to believe.

I see the consequences of Robbins as tending to create two categories of persons — the so-called under-qualified, and the over-qualified so reckoned. Possessing no degree, category one victims are made to feel inferior or failures. Of course, it is possible to

William Isbister: Students protested that university was a right — I considered it a privilege

Discipline before gimmicks is the recruiter's rule



William Isbister is occupational psychologist adviser to a number of companies and organizations. He is a member of the psychologists' panel operating with the Civil Service Selection Board.

surmount and survive, and succeed in spite of the supposed deprivation. I have worked with self-made, entrepreneur-tycoon millionaires who cannot boast any O levels.

But so too are my second category actual degree-holders sometimes the victims — the young, newly graduated, who cannot easily find employment today, and are told when applying for a particular job that they are over-qualified (as indeed in some senses, sadly, they are).

What then are the real causes of the malaise undoubtedly gripping all recruitment-selection activities in general?

In my experience recruitment-selection failings result in only a few cases from laziness, but in the

main are the fruits of a combination of ignorance and fundamental attitudes.

Valid selection is always a matter of discipline and being systematic, and is never to be confused with gimmicks and quick solutions. It should embrace the answers to two basic questions in order: What are we selecting for? And: For whom then should we be looking?

The ignorance lies in the fact that few organizations bother to train their staff involved in the disciplined and systematic answering of these questions. There is, however, yet another fundamental question: Can selectors recognize these requirements or lack of them in the individuals who may present?

Ignorance here lies in the fact that far too many organizations allow staff at all levels to become engaged in selection without any basic training in interviewing, and still less so in the assessment of men.

As a result the whole selection exercise becomes totally unprincipled. One thing that makes the Civil Service Selection Board selection procedures — so often the target of criticism — among the best in the world is that despite faults and failings they are based on system and discipline and a certain amount of initial training for all involved.

The fundamental attitudes I mention refer in part to the

perpetuation of that ignorance even when solutions are pointed out. Thus, the attitude may be summarized as "we know it all" and "we have nothing to learn and you can teach us nothing".

I can best illustrate this from my experience of 25 years with one of the greatest multinational organizations in the world. I had no training role there but I offered them my example through an actual involvement in some of their activities.

Despite my significantly changing the calibre of their personnel for the better in one important area of their functioning, I think it is true to say that when I retired from the role the organization's members had learned nothing — not even the true role of the

psychologist in such matters — and, at the end, they were still interviewing persons, including myself, across enormous status-ridden desks.

I reflect and accept that after a working lifetime I and my colleagues have made comparatively little impact in terms of improving what is needing to be improved, but I also know that in any case there are very, very few good pickers of men and women, that there is nothing new and that every system is only as good as the person who uses it.

I also know that even in enlightened organizations the psychologist may not get his way. Recently, in an enlightened corner of the electrical industry in which the true assessing of men is a recognizable approach, and in which I find myself, a vacancy arose for an engineer and applications were invited only from internal candidates.

I assessed all the applicants, and recommended on the totality of the evidence available the most suitable person. Sadly, though he had all the necessary experience and the potential, he lacked that paper qualification; the recommendation was not accepted, because, this being the 1980s, a paper qualification was deemed a realistic essential requirement for the job in question.

And so, the person concerned left the field and returned to fishing at sea with his son.

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CAREERS AND COMPETITIONS MANAGER

The Hotel and Catering Training Board, which provides training services to the tourism and leisure industries, currently has a vacancy for a manager based in Ealing, to run its Careers and Competitions activities.

Responsibilities include devising systems for responding to careers enquiries; organising participation in national careers seminars, exhibitions, and conferences; and liaison with other bodies involved in careers; devising and organising competitions (mainly for young people); negotiating sponsorships; and arranging overseas exchange schemes. Knowledge of the education system, an interest in young people, and considerable administrative ability are essential.

Salary will be negotiable within the range £10,329 to £14,075. Benefits include contributory pension scheme, annual leave starting at 22 days increasing annually to a maximum of 25 days and £1.30 per day luncheon vouchers. For further information and an application form, contact Wendy Murphy at the above address. The closing date for applications is 21st October 1987. Interviews will be held in Ealing on 30th October 1987.

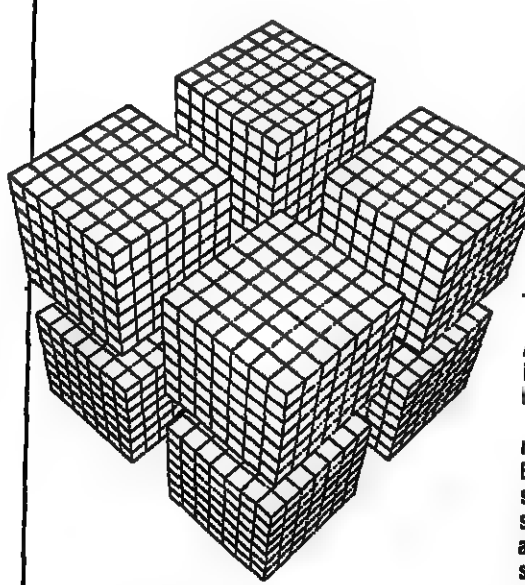


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London WC2A 3JX

COUNTRY CLUB REPRESENTATIVE

Representative required throughout the UK to assist with the enrolment of new members for the most prestigious private residential Country Club in Europe. All introductions supplied, generous rates of commission and total sales/product training given. If you would like to become involved in this exciting project please forward C.V. to:

Miss Beverley J. Cleary,
6 Queen St.
Mayfair,
London W1X 7PH

Insurance Group

Sales Training Manager

to £25,000+car

An experienced external Sales Trainer is sought by our Clients to devise and run a new training operation to motivate the sales and customer service staff of their professional intermediary clients, and to instil product knowledge.

The post calls for a person with tact and energy who enjoys working independently, while remaining within a team. Whilst based in Southern England, there will be considerable UK travel.

Candidates, probably aged 30-45, should be experienced trainers, and come preferably from a Building Society, Finance House or other credit provider. Previous sales experience will be an advantage.

Please write in confidence, quoting reference 791, to Keith Fisher at Overton Shirley and Barry, Prince Rupert House, 64 Queen Street, London, EC4R 1AD. Telephone: 01-248 0355.

Overton Shirley & Barry
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND SELECTION CONSULTANTS

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

WHAT IS IT WORTH?

By IT we mean Information Technology of course and we question if you know the value of your IT experience both now and in your future career? Most people do not know their true worth to the top companies nor can they easily evaluate their best way forward. Our experience and industry-wide contacts allow us to give you independent advice in your search, at no cost to you, across the full spectrum of

ADVANCED SYSTEMS

For example one of our major clients is currently embarking on a massive expansion programme and requires staff at all levels across a wide range of application areas including:

- Defence
- Finance
- Banking
- Office Automation
- Communications
- Industrial Systems

They already enjoy an excellent reputation as one of the country's leading systems/software houses and they alone could enable you to demonstrate your true worth.

We are seeking Project Managers, Consultants and Technical Specialists who have extensive experience in managing or providing direction to complex projects involving advanced software and computing techniques. You can command salaries up to

£35,000 p.a.
plus car and benefits

In addition Team Leaders/Members are required experienced in systems or software design/development in any application area ideally involving any of DEC, IBM, ICL, PRIME, TANDEM, or MICROS using ADA, Assembler, CORAL, FORTRAN, PASCAL, TAL, UNIX/C, 4GL's or Data bases.

Make IT worth your while, send your C.V. today to Eric Kirk, Managing Director, KMS Ltd, P.O. Box 5, LIPHOOK, HANTS. GU30 7UL or call him on 0428 724167 anytime

Pioneering Roles for Actuarial, Statistical & Computing Professionals

City based; £25-35,000 p.a. & comprehensive benefits

A major UK Composite Insurance Company is seeking to enlarge and strengthen its City-based Actuarial and Statistical Department - an exciting opportunity to embrace new concepts and applications in non-life business.

The technically sophisticated work, seen to be far in advance of competitor activity, includes the design, implementation and operation of management information and operational support systems. The brief also extends to research in relevant methodology - particularly in the application of mathematical statistics and actuarial science to non-life insurances. There will be a strong involvement in the computer hardware/software interfaces with the areas concerned.

The immediate requirements are as follows:-

ASSISTANT MANAGERS - Projections Analysis - Market Analysis Multiway Analysis - Overseas Markets Analysis (£25-30,000)

Several Assistant Managers are required with strong analytical skills and the creative flair to develop new statistical systems. Likely age is over 30.

One appointment demands a fully qualified Actuary, whilst others may be offered to candidates with FIA, FCA, or who are about to qualify. Those with a strong academic background and relevant experience/research related to the Financial Services sector may also be considered. A good honours degree in Statistics, Mathematical Statistics or a mathematically-orientated subject

with relevant post-graduate qualifications will be required.

ASSISTANT MANAGER - Systems & Programming (£28-32,000)

By definition, the selected candidate will require extensive management experience of systems design and programming in PLI, ideally gained in an insurance or banking environment. Age and qualifications will be similar to above.

Salary and benefits offered reflect an environment where exceptional flair and talent are both recognised and rewarded. There is a genuine scope for further advancement in this fast-growing Company, as part of its well-developed, long-term personnel strategy.

In addition to the salaries indicated, benefits include Company car scheme, preferential rate mortgage, non-contributory pension, PHI, profit-sharing, season ticket loan scheme, free luncheon facilities and if appropriate, generous relocation assistance.

If you meet the qualifications and experience requirements and wish to discuss possibilities, you are asked to write, with a full resume to the Company's Selection Advisers. A fast response and absolute confidentiality are guaranteed.

John L. Thompson, Director,
Thompson Associates Ltd., Compton House,
20A Selsdon Road, South Croydon,
Surrey CR2 6PA.

Quoting reference number 1205



THOMPSON ASSOCIATES LIMITED
LONDON (CENTRAL) ST. JAMES'S PLACE, LONDON SW1A 1JL

Investment Manager to c£29,000 package Andover

The TSB Trust Company - the insurance and unit trust arm of the TSB Group - is one of the major forces within the financial services sector. This success has led to the build up of large reserves both of the Company and its Life Fund, to the extent that they now exceed £150 million - and they are still growing fast.

Your job will be to manage the investment of these reserves, which are primarily in gilts, but also with significant equity and term deposit elements. We expect you will be a graduate with at least three years experience in the management of gilt portfolios.

In return we offer a salary package which includes sizeable monthly and annual performance related bonuses, mortgage assistance and profit sharing. In addition, you'll also receive free BUPA, a non-contributory pension scheme, flextime and generous relocation assistance to this attractive part of Hampshire.

To apply, please telephone or write to Bill Brewer Personnel Resourcing Manager TSB Trust Company Limited, Charlton Place Andover Hampshire SP10 1RE Telephone Andover (0264) 56789 ext 2161



Telecommunications Development Manager

Cathay Pacific Airways, Hong Kong's airline, has a vacancy for a Telecommunications Development Manager whose task will be to determine and implement the Company's future strategy for their worldwide telecommunications network.

Qualifications And Experience

Applicants should be suitably qualified individuals aged under 40 who can demonstrate strategic planning ability and a proven track record of successful project management. The ideal candidate will be already performing this task in a multinational environment and have a sound knowledge of SITA/ARINC.

Salary

- Starting salary for this appointment will not be less than HK\$425,000 per annum and after completing one calendar year you will receive an additional month's salary as an annual bonus.
- The current rate of exchange is approx. HK\$12.5 to the £ and income tax in Hong Kong is 16.5%.
- Provident Fund.

Benefits

- 6 weeks leave per annum and a generous travel allowance.
- Free medical cover.
- Subsidised accommodation.
- Children's education allowance both for those at school in Hong Kong and overseas.
- Life insurance cover.

Applicants wishing to join an aggressive team embarking on a challenging and exciting future are invited to submit a detailed C.V. as soon as possible to:

General Staff Manager,
Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.,
Tsimshatsui P.O. Box 98411,
Hong Kong.

CATHAY PACIFIC



A Future in Financial Services

A major financial services group, with funds of £6.3 million currently under management, urgently need ambitious and industrious individuals to help meet the challenges presented by one of the fastest growing areas within the economy.

The group currently spends £4 million p.a. on training and development of its financial consultants, and in 1987 are spending £5 million on advertising.

If you have a high income requirement, are hard working, ambitious and determined to succeed, please telephone, Keith Persaud on 01 734 3075.

Business Development Manager Surrey

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Business Development Manager within a company which provides a wide range of products and services for the Arab and other foreign communities.

You will be required to co-ordinate and control the company's growth; identifying new markets and developing more products and services.

Together with considerable commercial experience and knowledge of Arab and other foreign cultures, you will be fluent, orally and in writing, in Arabic, French and Swedish.

An attractive package is offered with splendid opportunities for travel.
Write with full CV to Chris Smith, PER, 12a Commercial Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1HG.

PER

Britain's Largest Executive Recruitment Consultancy

STOKE POGES (1958) LTD.

This prestigious club invites applications for the post of:

SECRETARY/ MANAGER

Applicants must have sound management and administrative skills, proven experience - a good knowledge of golf. Successful applicants will be responsible for managing this busy, financially successful club and championship golf course where the highest standard is obtained. He will report to the board of directors. Genuine interest in this demanding and rewarding post is essential. The remuneration package will be in excess of £20,000 p.a.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Please send c.v. and full details of relevant experience to:

John Tetler Manager,
Stoke Poges Golf Club,
North Drive,
Park Rd,
Stoke Poges,
Slough,
SL2 4PG

ADVERTISING SALES ON TARGET EARNINGS £40K PA

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people. If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner, then we would like to talk to you. There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants. In the first instance please call David Conway or Ben Crocker on 240 1515.

TRAIN IN RECRUITMENT NEGOTIABLE

Accountancy Personnel, Britain's leading specialist recruitment consultancy is committed to a policy of expansion. The growth of its office network and increasing client-base provides unrivalled career opportunities for astute individuals who are both self-confident and highly motivated.

To join one of our professional teams of consultants you should be 21-28, educated to degree level and ideally have a background in accountancy. Vacancies currently exist in Hampshire, Central London and The Midlands and all provide an attractive and progressive income, large company benefits and early responsibility.

If you are interested in knowing more about a career with Accountancy Personnel contact:

Accountancy Personnel *Planning Accounts for the Future*
L2 South - 01-431 6497 (Hampshire)
Central London - Laurence Hedges - 01-431 0464 (Midlands)

COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER AND OFFICE PRODUCTS SALES REPRESENTATIVES MALES/FEMALE

We are a major manufacturer operating within the computer and office product markets and have vacancies for sales executives to join our highly successful direct sales team.

Applicants must have experience in direct sales of these products or a range which is closely related, such as office stationery/computer consumables.

The successful candidates should ideally be located in Surrey, Middlesex or Berkshire.

Benefits will be those expected from a major company:

- *Medical and pension schemes
- *Negotiable basic salary
- *Commission on all sales
- *Salary guarantees during initial period
- *Target performance bonus
- *Company motor car
- *Expenses

Please reply to:
Mr. M. North or Mr. R.K. Whithead
on 01 773 8011

Columbia International
Kingsley Bridge Road
Lower Sydenham
London SE26 5AW

PROPERTY RESEARCH

We are a progressive firm of Mayfair surveyors and our Research Department is expanding. We are therefore looking for a graduate with at least three years commercial experience to assist in data collection, analysis and report writing for both internal use and external publication.

Although experience in the property industry would be useful, a high degree of initiative and the ability to adopt an analytical and investigative approach to problem solving are more important attributes.

Applicants should be highly numerate (computing ability is desirable) with a degree in a relevant discipline such as Geography, Economics or Business Studies.

A competitive salary will be offered together with good prospects for advancement in this expanding field.

Please apply with full CV to: Lindsey Cason, Research Manager.

Edward Eroman
01-223 8191
PERSONNEL

SENIOR RESEARCHER/ CONSULTANT

Small company in London, SW1, providing day-to-day advice on energy prices, needs presentable graduate with at least 2 years business experience, including client liaison, able to work alone and supervise others. Extensive use of micro-computers and opportunity to develop this demanding position. Age 25-30. Initial salary £11,000+ depending on experience. Annual bonus.

Please telephone John Hall 01-222 6633

COMMODITY BROKERS

City based, require intelligent and articulate, well spoken trainee account executives.

Candidates should be confident, determined and energetic.

CONTACT SEBASTIAN BERNARDSON on 01 480 5570

Filling the gap.

City Merchant Bank needs lively, intelligent, energetic person to help create but lovable marketing team to promote successful fund management group, assist in A levels, a basic understanding of personal computers and an initial stage of training. Non smoking status and residence essential. Mortgage to modest salary, ideal for school leaver 'filling the gap'.

Tel: 01 623 5333 X 2602.

PALL MALL MONEY MANAGEMENT

A subsidiary of the Chase de Vere (Pall Mall) Group of Companies.

Has vacancies for Trainee Consultants. Extremely high income potential.

For full details
01 734 1422

LONDON BASED yacht company requires boatman/steward for the best shore. Applicants must have experience in first class service, should be able to drive and cook to a high standard. A must be fluent in 2 languages: conversant English, Australian with CV & references to 2000 C/O The Times

OPPORTUNITY: Entrepreneurial and mature individuals seeking a challenge and rewarding career. Requires immediate communication/leadership skills rewarded by exceptional financial returns and first class training. Enquiries to 0950 84700

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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FORWARD
ON
EXPANSION

TOSHIBA

Toshiba is a multinational company for electronics with a staff of 120,000. The consequent exploration and development of new and higher technology ensures success in a continuously rising branch.

Our permanent expansion demands employment of further qualified staff. We require for our field COPIER INTERNATIONAL as soon as possible

SPECIALIST FOR PRODUCTS
Copying machine and Telefax

This sphere includes the technical support and training of our international customers but different market activities with collecting and evaluating of market analysis, planning etc. should not be odd to you. The contacts are international, therefore readiness for travelling is indispensable.

Presupposed would be a study of engineering and some years of practical experiences corresponding to this field. For the Telefax system you should have knowledge about obtaining postlicences in all European countries.

The place of business will be in Neuss, West-Germany.

Are you interested in this multifarious positions?

Join us into expansion!

Please send your application with the salary as you wish to our Personnel Division (Mr. Hoppen).

TOSHIBA Europe (I.E.) GmbH
Personnelabteilung
Hammer Landstr. 118 - 4040 Neuss 1
Telefon: 21 01 / 155 - 255

TOSHIBA

Take a closer look at CADNETIX

Cadnetix is a leading international supplier of advanced electronic CAE/CAD systems, with innovative integrated hardware and software products operating under UNIX. An extremely broad user base includes major blue-chip companies in the telecommunications, aerospace, computer and instrumentation industries. Our deep commitment to research and development has resulted in our maintaining market dominance throughout Europe.

Regional Accounts Sales Executive
c.£20K base. £50K OTE (no ceiling) + Car.

Due to continued growth, we require a Regional Accounts Sales Executive to cover the North of England. Marketing our acclaimed product range, you will be responsible for account development and penetration. You should have a good sales track record, gained within a CAE/CAD, or related, electronics environment, together with a degree or equivalent qualification in a relevant technical discipline. Excellent communications skills, together with the ability to negotiate effectively with both technicians and senior management, are essential. Full technical, marketing and demonstration support will be provided from our Swindon head office. You will initially work from home, but should be prepared to relocate at a later date, when regional offices have been selected, for which reasonable expenses will be paid. An excellent basic salary is offered, plus a generous commission structure, quality company car and share option scheme. If you would like to develop your career with a market leader, telephone Paul Whitney on Swindon (0793) 616400 or write to him at: Cadnetix Ltd., Cherry Orchard North, Kemble Park, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 6UH.

WHICH CAREER SUITS BEST?

Professional Guidance and Assessment for all ages.
15-24 yrs: Careers, Careers
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Full details in free brochure:
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GROUP ADMIN
★ MANAGER ★
Salary to £22K + car.

Mid Life Investment Sales Co. seek a dynamic Admin Manager to look after Group Admin. Experience of all office services with a sales environment is desirable. Direct the management team and control is an essential part of the job. A knowledge of word processing, stock control, computer and accounts will be an advantage. Educated to A level. Age 25-40.

01-481 4481
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SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

To let furnished/ serviced offices in Mayfair managed by our company. Salary plus commission.
Tel: 01 481 7830

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
OTE £20,000-30,000 + GTI

We are a rapidly expanding consultancy specialising in career, accountancy/finance appointments.

We seek nothing less than pre-eminence in this marketplace.

With this aim in view and the resources to invest in potential, we are looking to augment our young and successful team by recruiting both graduates and experienced consultants for our commercial/public practice divisions.

Have YOU got what it takes to join us?

Start by measuring yourself against the following criteria:

- *Aged under 28
- *Good education
- *Excellent interpersonal skills
- *Sales orientation
- *Management potential
- *Professionalism
- *Marketing flair
- *Determination
- *Unwavering commitment
- *Mojo motivation

Still reading? - Good, you could be one of the high calibre people we are seeking.

We aim to retain you by offering a fast moving environment, high basic salary and generous quarterly bonus scheme. Attainment of our target earnings yields a company car of your choice and prospects are limited only by your own level of success and motivation.

Making the right connections in your career are important, so ring me, John Constable, Director, either during business hours or at home and let's talk about your interest in Executive Connections. Alternatively, in the first instance and strictest confidence, send me a CV, explaining why you believe you are a suitable candidate.

EXECUTIVE CONNECTIONS
3RD FLOOR, 15 EAGLE STREET
LONDON WC1R 4AP
TELEPHONE: 01-243 8103

IF YOUR CAREER ISN'T MOVING QUICKLY ENOUGH, THEN HERE'S A CHANCE TO GET INTO THE FAST LANE

At Fidelity International, we can offer you all the advantages of a fast moving sales environment that will put an end to all the frustrating hours spent behind the wheel of a car.

We are the country's fastest growing unit trust company and our Telephone Advisory Service is now handling over 50,000 calls per month from private investors. This department is based in Torridge and we now require a number of telesales people to help deal with expanding levels of new business.

TRAINEE INVESTMENT ADVISERS
Excellent Salary plus Bonus and Benefits.

Aged in your mid to late twenties, you must have a minimum of three years experience in sales with a proven track record of success. This could have been gained in any selling environment, although a telesales background would be an advantage. A knowledge of the financial services industry is not essential as full training will be given.

We are offering an excellent remuneration package which will include a generous salary negotiable in line with experience, a performance related bonus and the usual benefits you would expect from a successful company. Relocation assistance is also available if necessary.

If you are interested in joining an expanding organisation that offers the excitement of the city only in more attractive surroundings, please call our advising consultant: Gill Somerset, for further information on 01-734 7394. Span Recruitment, 43-44 Great Windmill Street, London W1V 7PL.

BERMUDA - BOSTON - HONG KONG - JERSEY
LONDON - NEW YORK - PARIS - SAN FRANCISCO
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BUILD ON
SALES SUCCESS

We are the Tremco Group, one of the world's leaders in high technology Specialist Building Materials.

Our UK development plan requires additional sales personnel to augment our established successful team. This team has consistently produced a year-on-year growth of at least 15% since the 1970's.

If you want to build a sales career based on success, we can give you the opportunity, the support and the materials.

- The Areas**
- N.E. London/N.E. Home Counties/Kent (Trotol Building Products)
 - Northern Home Counties (Tremco Insulated Glazing Sealants)
 - W. Sussex/Hants/Dorset (Tremco Roofing)
 - Bristol/S. Wales (Tremco Roofing)
 - E. Midlands/S. Yorks (Tremco Sealants)
 - W. Midlands (Tremco Insulated Glazing Sealants)
 - Gtr. Manchester/Merseyside (Tremco Adhesives)
 - Gtr. Manchester/Merseyside (Tremco Roofing)
 - Aberdeen/E. Scotland (Tremco Roofing)

- The Applicants**
- Successful industrial sales record
 - Experience in Construction related industry
 - Ability to absorb/utilise technical expertise effectively
 - Aged 25/40

Interested? Then please write, with a full C.V., or telephone for an application form, to:

Tremco Limited, Coupland Road, Hindley Green, Wigan, Lancashire WN2 4HT
Tel: (0942) 58011.

Ask for Terry Brophy or Pat Beiles.
TREMCO
leaders in weatherproofing technology

ADP The computing company.

CAN YOU SELL PAYROLL SERVICES? WANT TO EARN £30k + +

If you think payroll seems a very boring kind of subject - think again!

The market for external payroll processing is one of the fastest growing and exciting service segments in the UK services sector and offers challenging opportunities for sales professionals with the right qualities.

We are looking for exceptional sales executives to join our expanding team working in London and South East England. We need people who have a proven record of success in volume selling of new specialist payroll services coupled with the ability to sell a service as a Financial Director level in a consultative problem-solving capacity. A background in a payroll bureau, accountancy or administration would be a distinct advantage.

We are ADP, the world's largest supplier of payroll services to business, with a worldwide turnover of 1.4 billion dollars. We have provided specialist payroll services in the UK for more than 20 years. We are expanding rapidly and offer considerable scope for sales career progression to the right people.

We offer a good basic salary, high commission and incentive earnings, a 14.6% car, contributory pension, non-contributory family BUPA, four weeks annual leave and an environment of "business fun".

Call us for more details and an application form.

Ask for Carole Welford, Personnel Manager on Salaries (0784) 31355.

Automatic Data Processing Ltd
ADP House, 2 Pine Trees,
Chertsey Lane, Staines,
Middx. TW18 3DS

Make Your Presence Felt....

Our tremendous expansion, as part of the country's largest employment service group, has created exceptional opportunities for entrepreneurs who thrive on competition.

Management positions which emphasize business development are available if you are confident, possess effective man-management skills and work well under pressure.

We need people, not necessarily with recruitment consultancy experience, who can use an innovative marketing approach to make their presence felt both within our organisation and also on the national consultancy scene.

Naturally you will be generously rewarded, with an outstanding salary and benefits package.

Please write, in confidence, enclosing a detailed C.V., to Mrs. A. Higginson, Director, Brook Street, Stockley House, 130 Wilton Road, London SW1V 1LQ.

BETTER PEOPLE COME FROM
BROOK STREET

British Printing Industries Federation
Director General

salary c £45,000

The industry - Britain's 9th - is in a period of massive technical and market development. The Federation provides a strong and increasing range of services to enhance the prospects of member companies.

The Director General's function is to respond to opportunity and challenge through creative thought and consultation with members, government, unions and related bodies here and overseas.

Reporting is to the National Board of Management and responsibility includes the general management of a £2.5 million budget and some 115 staff in the 6 regional offices and London head office.

Salary is not a bar to the appointment of the right candidate who will be able to demonstrate a successful record of top level management, the ability to achieve results and to communicate at all levels.

Suitably qualified persons should first write to the President, BPIF, 11 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4DX marked DG Private.

PADDINGTON CHURCHES
HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

require a

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
located in LONDON NW6
at c. £20,000 pa.

PCHA is one of the leading Housing Associations in London, with over 6000 tenants, properties worth over £500 million, and an annual acquisitions and development programme of over £16 million using both public and private sector finance. We currently employ 150 staff.

The Housing Association sector has grown rapidly over the past decade and continues to have a bright future, now offering career prospects to Accountants on a par with most of industry and the profession.

Reporting to the Finance Director, the Chief Accountant is responsible for 7 staff including two qualified accountants, and plays the central role in producing accounts and management information for the Directors and for Management Committee. Funds management is also part of the responsibilities of the post. The high level of innovation achieved by the Association in providing new forms of housing and methods of financing them means that the Chief Accountant must be equally creative in ensuring that they are properly monitored.

Age indicator is 30 upwards, and candidates must be ACA or ACCA or be able to demonstrate strong technical and management experience. As part of our equal opportunities policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of sex, sexual orientation, disability or ethnic origins.

Applicants should write enclosing career and current salary details to John Poynton, Finance Director, at Canterbury House, Canterbury Road, London NW6 5SU, or phone him for further information on 01-372-5671.

STEP INTO FINANCE
IFR PUBLISHING

leaders in the provision of information to the International Financing Markets, require a

DATA ASSISTANT/ SECRETARY

to work on the financial databases. Word Processing/Computer experience desirable. Flexible attitude and willingness to work as part of a friendly team essential.

Salary: circa £10,000 p.a.
Contact: Niall Perry on 01-247 6575

CV SERVICE based on telephone or personal interview.
Berkshire 04427 72001

MANAGER
CONTRACTS/CONSULTING

Acis Inc. is a New York based computer consultancy embarking upon a new division of its already very successful London Branch.

With support already in place and excellent West End offices, this opportunity affords a unique chance to apply the knowledge you have gained in the contract market place, developing into a management role.

Ideally the successful candidate will have a proven track record in Contract Sales in a DP environment, some DP background and demonstrable management skills.

For strong, motivated self-starters, this position will carry an excellent salary and commission package.

Please apply with c.v. to Anne Hutchison at 77A Wigmore Street, London W1H 9JL or phone her on 01-935 9664. Recruitment Consultants

JETRO LONDON
(JAPAN TRADE CENTRE)

RESEARCHER

Experience preferred but not essential. Graduate in economics likely to be most suitable. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Lunchtime vouchers, pension scheme, season ticket loan, pension scheme. Applicants should write enclosing cv to: Mrs J. Yoxall, Jetto London, Leconfield House, Curzon Street, London W1V 7FE. (No Agencies)

A Sales Career with Sun Life of Canada.

Offering an interesting and rewarding future combining security and real opportunity. Full training and support. Prospects and executive income. Suitable applicant aged between 25 and 49, can be employed in the area of their choice.

Telephone Elaine Marriot at Basingstoke (0256) 64114 or write to her at Sun Life of Canada, Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 2DZ. Quote Reference 71

MOVE INTO MANAGEMENT

We need people now to train into Management for our office in Central London.

If you are aged between 21 and 35 please telephone 437 8070. Expected income £17,000

Tadpole Technology plc
COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

Tadpole Technology plc is a four year old Cambridge based company specialising in the design and production of high performance 32-bit processors. Our customers include some of the most prestigious names in Information Technology here, in Europe and in the USA.

This key appointment to our 30+ strong team will attract an ambitious qualified accountant who has the personality, the experience and the ability to play an active role in managing the company's financial and commercial matters.

The Commercial Director will report to the Chairman. He or she will have senior financial experience in a high-technology manufacturing environment. A marketing-oriented, hands-on attitude is required, as is the experience and the stature to assist in an early approach to a USM listing.

This is an exciting and demanding position. The rewards will include a stock option and attractive salary.

Please send a detailed application to the Chairman, at:
Tadpole Technology plc,
Tian House, Castle Park,
Cambridge. CB3 0AY.

01-481 4481

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

EXTERNAL SALES EXECUTIVE

FINNBOARD (U.K. LTD.), agents for a number of leading Finnish paperboard mills, wish to appoint an experienced Sales Executive to manage a number of established customer accounts, as well as to seek new business for the Company's products, notably in the graphics sector.

Candidates should be able to display a thorough knowledge of the U.K. graphics printing market and/or the Merchant sector. He/she must be able to negotiate at a senior level and to demonstrate ability to identify and communicate customer's needs to the Company's mills in Finland. Thorough training will be provided in the company's products and systems.

The job involves travel throughout the Southern part of England and will also necessitate regular visits to Finland.

A company car will be provided and the salary and fringe benefits are consistent with those expected from a successful international business.

Applications, with full career details, should be sent to: Michael Clark, Sales Director, Carton-board division, Finnboard (U.K. Ltd., Norfolk House, 31 St. James Square, London, SW1 4JR.

Major London Shipbrokers

seeking to expand a specialist section within their Tanker Department are looking for an experienced person in the chemical and/or liquefied gas shipping market to join an existing team. Applicants should be 25 plus with at least 3 years experience in this type of market. Apply in writing to

Box Number C20 with full C.V.

Arabic and/or Farsi Linguists

Central London £10,700+

A substantial employer in Central London has vacancies for linguists who wish to make daily practical use of their languages. They will be based in Central London and will be expected to maintain fluency in reading, writing and understanding their chosen language.

Candidates should be over 21, with a thorough knowledge of Arabic or Persian (Farsi). A degree or professional qualification in the language would be advantageous, but is by no means essential. Starting salary at least £10,700 p.a. Assistance with relocation if necessary.

Please send CV to D.C. Duncan, Managing Director TEAM (Management Appointments) Ltd, 20/21 Princes Street, London W1R 7RG, or telephone 01 429 0679 for application form. Quote ref. P379.

TEAM

Commercial Director EAST ANGLIA

All enquiries, treated in strict confidence, to D. G. Pearce, OUTSIDE DIRECTOR LIMITED, Reepham, Norfolk, NR10 4RP. Telephone: 026288 585

With retail turnover of £10.4 million through 15 Sales Centres, a wide range of goods are sold to farmers and the general public throughout the Rural Economy of East Angles. Market mix comprises groceries, hardware, tools, crop protection and garden equipment, agricultural and garden machinery spares and services, country and safety clothing, livestock health and care products.

For the existing and demanding NEW POST the COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR will need experience in retailing, qualities of leadership and interpersonal flair. A salary of £30,000 is being offered, together with immediate entry into the Directors' Pension Scheme, executive car, BUPA, and participation in Profit Sharing Scheme.

NEW POST: A commercial Merchandising Agricultural Trading and Retail Company, turnover £10 million, wishes to appoint a COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR. The COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR, will have two main responsibilities: Firstly, as COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR, responsible for the profitable expansion of the retail and service activities and for management of the 150 retail staff. Secondly, as a MAIN BOARD DIRECTOR, contributing as a policy decision maker.

OD

TRAINEE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE £15,000 package c. London

When it comes to assignment-based recruitment for the information technology sector, Lloyd Chapman stands out as a clear leader with a reputation based firmly on our ability to deliver results through quality of service, backed by award-winning advertising.

Not surprisingly, our blue-chip client list is growing rapidly. Hence the need for a Trainee Account Executive who will join us preferably from a media sales environment - ideally computer-oriented - and bring some 18 months relevant experience.

The responsibilities will be many and include the convincing of new and potential clients, research and monitoring of the special and press in order to arrange for our consultants to secure new business.

Certainly, you will be of graduate calibre, ambitious, determined and resilient. You should also be in your 20's, with a formal training in sales. Your salary will be made up of a generous basic plus commission... and will directly reflect your performance. Ambitious candidates can expect to progress to Account Executive within a year, where earnings are unlimited and include a company car.

For immediate consideration, send your CV to: Carr Phillips, Director, Lloyd Chapman Associates, 1, T. Thomas Ltd., 100 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0HR. Please quote reference G1V44.

Lloyd Chapman Associates

International Search and Selection
100 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0HR.
Telephone: 01-408 1670

Train as a FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

OTE £25,000 per annum within 2 years

Following the huge success of FPS (Management Ltd) over the last year, we urgently require trainee (or experienced) Financial Consultants to join our London (West End) offices. No previous experience is needed as full technical and sales training is provided.

Candidates must be well spoken, well dressed, aged 23-40, and able to show success in their previous employment and be able to assume a management role at an early stage.

Call Quentin Russell or Mark Elliott on 01 734 8786.

Agricultural Finance: a marketing opportunity

AMC is currently seeking an additional and suitably qualified individual to assist in the development of its business.

Although based in London, the job will entail extensive travel within England and Wales involving close liaison with those firms of Chartered Surveyors who form AMC's Agency Network and contact with other professionals such as accountants, solicitors, farming consultants and the farming public.

Applicants should be reasonably versed in agriculture, with knowledge of financial practice, accountancy and farm costing. They must possess good communication skills, including an ability to speak in public. Applicants under the age of thirty-five are unlikely to have the necessary experience to qualify for this post.

The salary for this important new position is negotiable however remuneration will reflect both the calibre and experience of the successful applicant. A car will be provided together with other fringe benefits.

Conditions of service and promotion prospects are good. Written applications together with a full Curriculum Vitae should be sent to Mr J.G.W. Fleming at the address below by no later than 16 October 1987.

AMC

THE AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE CORPORATION PLC
AMC House, 27 Camperdown Street, London E1 8JZ

AN ADMINISTRATOR WITH THE TEMPERAMENT OF A DIPLOMAT £23,000 to £27,000

This important post in the Law Society's top management team demands a unique combination of professional and personal skills. On a given day, for example, you may have to clerk a committee meeting, meet the architect to resolve a building problem, investigate a security matter, answer a copyright query, and play host to a VIP.

In fact, you will play a vital role in the efficient running of the Law Society and the management of its premises.

You'll need substantial administrative experience, preferably gained in a large organisation and including a good deal of committee work, and the exercise of cost control and getting value for money.

You are likely to have a degree and/or a specialised management qualification. You will also be an effective communicator, able to relate personally to the membership and to all levels of staff, and to produce lucid, well-reasoned reports and recommendations.

In return, we offer a salary around £25,000 plus all the benefits to be expected of a large organisation.

Please send your CV including full details of current responsibilities and salary to Joyce Collier, Personnel Controller, The Law Society, 118 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL. Closing date 15 October. We are an equal opportunities employer.



THE LAW SOCIETY

CORPORATE VALUE ASSOCIATES

CVA is an international business strategy firm. As part of a planned programme of growth, CVA is now seeking to recruit a number of consultants. Career prospects are excellent and will lead to significant career advancement. Candidates will be aged between 25 and 30, will have a recognized University degree, an MBA or equivalent from a major European business school, and a professional qualification. Other requirements include:

- experience in consultancy, advising at board level,
- familiarity with multicultural business issues,
- experience in computer based planning and simulation models,
- language skills in English, French and German - Italian and Spanish would also be relevant,
- frequent travel and work away from home.

Competitive remuneration packages will be offered.

Interested candidates should write, with CV to:

Roger Steere, Anderson, Squires Ltd., 127 Cheapside, London EC3V 6BU.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
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MANAGER Capital Fundraising

Help the Aged offer a unique service to voluntary groups intending to raise large-scale capital funding for practical projects of benefit to elderly people in need.

We employ a small team of specialist Campaign Directors whom we second to such projects for extended periods to assist in raising funds normally in the range of £150,000 to £1 million. These are professionals, fully-trained in big-fund fundraising techniques using voluntary committees of influential people.

Our plan is for the operation to double in size over the next two years. We are therefore recruiting a third Regional Manager to cover the East of England from Lincolnshire to Sussex.

In addition to day-to-day management the position offers the opportunity to become involved in initial negotiations and feasibility studies. We will require candidates to have completed at least one big-fund capital fundraising campaign and to have a proven successful track record in management, preferably in an earlier career.

Salary £12,437 to £14,037 (Review 1.1.88). Home-based.

Please apply with C.V. to: Colin Mitchell, Personnel Director, St. James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE.

Closing date October 15.

Help the Aged

PROFESSIONAL SALES EXECUTIVES Realistic OTE 30K unlimited commission

To join expanding market leaders selling Britain's leading computerised estimating system to the Construction Industry.

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MANAGER

Primary agent of small central London based, successful, well-known, established, and growing, company, seeking a new manager. Good organisation, experience with public, cost control, marketing, energy and a good head required. Type preferred.

Write: London based, Park Place, Dorset, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0LE, or 01-871 5225.

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Wanted: English graduate, university, engineering, £15,000, London, 01-458 9522.

WANTED: Chief, proven management skills, culinary, service, fluent French/Italian. Tel: 01-871 5225.

PART time person required for housekeeping, cleaning, catering, etc. Tel: 01-871 5225.

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High profile appointment with excellent further career opportunities

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TO £40,000 + SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS

A MAJOR RAPIDLY-EXPANDING INVESTMENT BANK

Our client is one of the leading users of high-technology in the financial sector and for this new appointment we seek candidates, aged 35-45, with 8-10 years' practical telecommunications experience, including major project implementation, with a minimum of one year in an investment bank or similar environment. Responsibilities include the day to day management of telecommunications systems (electronic PABX, dealer boards, etc.), wired services, networks, message switching, electronic mail, etc. and experience in these areas as well as with computer systems (especially PCs), multiplexing and modems is essential. Strong management skills and the ability to support and promote a rapid response to users and to contribute to group projects from day one is key. The major contribution the post holder will make to the efficient running of the business will be rewarded through the performance related bonus. Initial salary negotiable to £40,000 + bonus, car, mortgage facility, contributory pension, life assurance, free medical insurance and relocation expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference TM4548 TT to the Managing Director - CJA

A key appointment for a Personnel professional, with excellent prospects for promotion either within the U.K. personnel function or to an overseas location



ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING MANAGER

£22,000-£27,000 + CAR

MULTI-NATIONAL FMCG MANUFACTURER

We invite applications from candidates, aged 30-35, with a minimum of five years' experience in personnel management, which must include substantial development and presentation of training programmes. The successful candidate, reporting to the Personnel Director, will be responsible for the strategic planning and design of training courses at all staff levels for employees in the U.K. and the design and co-ordination of programmes for European subsidiaries. The Manager will select external consultants and train line managers to assist in specialist training areas. The O.D. and Training Manager has responsibility for managing the company's human resource planning and organisation development activities. Essential qualities include an innovative, questioning and analytical approach to personnel together with excellent presentation skills. Initial salary dependent on experience in the range of £22,000-£27,000 plus car, contributory pension, free life assurance, and relocation assistance if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference ODTM 4543 TT to the Managing Director

3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PU TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-256 8501

ORGANISATIONS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE ON RECRUITMENT: PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-628 7538.

TRAIN AS A FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

O.T.E. £25,000 p.a. within 2 years

Following the huge success of FPS (Management) Ltd. over the last year, we urgently require trainee (or experienced) financial consultants to join our London (West End) based offices.

No previous experience is needed as full technical and sales training is provided.

Candidates must be well spoken, well dressed, aged 23-55, able to show success in their previous employment and be able to assume a management role at an early stage.

CALL TONY HILL
ON 01 439 8431

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To £25,000 tax free & Benefits.

Must have an in depth knowledge of UK, European, Middle East and North American markets related to importation to these areas of main hardwood species and their particular uses together with business experience in Sales/Marketing of Timber products and preparation of agency agreements.

Please send C.V. in confidence to:

KEN WILSON, KEN WILSON & ASSOCIATES COLLIINGWOOD BUILDING COLLINGWOOD STREET NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 1JF

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We are one of the leading manufacturers of silver plated tableware in the United Kingdom and an opportunity has arisen to join our young and aggressive sales team. The successful applicant will be trained by ourselves to enable them to be responsible for an area in Great Britain.

If you are aged between 20-30, self motivated, possess the determination to succeed, then there could be a future with us. Command of a foreign language would be an advantage.

Interested, then please write to:

The Sales Director, Mayell & Co, 115-117, West End Road, West Midlands B81 7PD

QUEEN ANNE

ACCOUNTS/ADMIN OFFICER

Mature accounts qualified and experienced person required to maintain the Society's books, handle all day to day financial matters, prepare accounts for audit and tackle various office and admin tasks. Computer capability and typing essential.

The successful applicant will join a small staff in a gracious and friendly environment.

Gross pay starts £11,365 rising to £14,115. Pension Scheme Applications in writing, giving address, telephone number, C.V. and names of two referees who may be approached, to:

Executive Secretary (Personnel), Royal Astronomical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0NL.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Required for Director of a small West End Company involved in merger and acquisition work. Personable, intelligent and self-assured researcher sought.

Experience of commercial environment useful.

Salary circa £10,000 plus bonus.

For details please ring 01-629 5917

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Purchaser - 10 years experience as Senior Buyer. Supply - Multiple years experience using computer in Supply Operations.

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Electrical Engineer - Experience in Maintenance of large industrial or electrical complex.

Electrical/Mechanical Engineer - Multiple years experience in Power Plant Operations.

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All applicants will be contacted. Send C.V. to the address below.

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01-481 4481

EURO BROKERS**Japanese Speakers**

Euro Brokers, a leading International Financial Services group with offices in London, New York, Los Angeles, Toronto and Tokyo is seeking to recruit several Japanese speakers, preferably with experience in Money or Capital Market products in both US dollar and sterling. It is envisaged that the successful candidates would initially assist with the money broking activities of the London office but excellent career opportunities exist within the group worldwide, including the possibility of an assignment to Tokyo.

A highly competitive remuneration package will be offered to successful candidates.

Please apply to:

N R L Hudson
Euro Brokers Limited
Adelaide House, London Bridge
London EC4R 9EQ
Telephone: 01-626 2691/2/3/4

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Competitive package, including car & profit share

Direct Technology is a rapidly expanding British software company which specializes in helping large corporations to integrate PCs and mainframes. We have over 500 corporate clients, from Hong Kong to Helsinki. In the past 12 months alone our products have won three of the UK's top software awards.

We are looking for a Business Development Manager to set up and run a new value added sales group. The group will specify, develop and market major custom applications, particularly for the financial services sector.

The ideal candidate is 28-38, with a sales and marketing background. He or she is a graduate with proven creativity at product marketing. Computer literacy and familiarity with Big Bang technology are both essential. Recent experience as an account, product or regional manager with a major computer company or software house is desirable.

Applicants should be prepared to work in both London and New York.

This is a key appointment with excellent prospects, and a chance to join a young, entrepreneurial management team. The attractive salary package includes a quality car and profit share.

Please telephone Nigel Young on 01-847 1666, or write with full CV to Direct Technology Limited, Grove House, 551 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4DS.

LONDON AND NEW YORK

Accountancy Personnel
Placing Accountants First

Senior Auditor

An opportunity to join a prestigious bank and gain an insight into all aspects of commercial and investment banking.

The AAA rated Swiss Bank Corporation is one of the top three Swiss banks with a major presence in international financial markets and a reputation for quality and service.

As the result of our recent rapid expansion we are looking for a Senior Auditor to join our group of companies in London. We seek a chartered accountant, preferably with previous audit experience in banks or financial institutions, to head up a small team undertaking operational and financial audits.

The successful candidate will be required to travel abroad to overseas offices and affiliates of the bank located in various international financial centres. A knowledge of German or French would be an advantage though not essential.

Salary is negotiable plus excellent banking benefits. Full curriculum vitae to Christopher Jansen - Vice President - Personnel



Swiss Bank Corporation
99 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2BR.
Tel: 01-606 4000.

**CORPORATE STRATEGY Newly/Recently Qualified Accountant**

London, West End c.£20,000 + Car

Join this small corporate planning team within a diverse International Services Group, who have recently received exceptionally favourable press coverage.

A newly/recently qualified accountant will have the opportunity to become involved in the review of acquisitions and divestments within a multi-currency environment, plus the preparation of budgets and plans to the Main Board.

The successful ACA/ACCA/ACMA will be aged 23-28, viewing this as a route into line management or International Divisional Controlship. Candidates making their first move from public practice and those already established in commercial industry will be given equal consideration.

Please contact VIVIANE SHALL quoting Ref: 4287 on 01-404 3155, at ALDERWICK PEACHELL & PARTNERS (Financial Recruitment Consultants), 125 High Holborn, London WC1V 6QA.

Alderwick & Peachell
PARTNERS LTD

CORPORATE FINANCE WC2 £27,000 + BONUS

City fund/investment managers are seeking a qualified chartered accountant to take a positive role within their project accounting department. This is an excellent opportunity for an innovative young accountant whose objective is to develop a career in finance. Initial duties will be to maximise the effectiveness of budgetary control and take an active part in development of planned operations. Standard requirement - 3 years post qual experience.

Ref: C9118

110 Strand, WC2

01-379 6716

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Our client, a leading merchant bank, has recently created two positions for part-qualified accountants with some experience in the financial sector. Initially the successful candidates will be involved on financial accounts, with a heavy emphasis on investment appraisal and management reporting as the positions develop. Excellent career progression guaranteed. Benefits include mortgage subsidy, BUPA, IFSTL.

Ref: BHJ 178

9 Eastcheap, EC3

01-626 0666

WEST END FIRM OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Require part qualified accountant with at least 3 years experience of small company accounts. Salary by negotiation.

Send C.V. to

Geoffrey Nathan

Chartered Accountants

241-243 Baker St,

London NW1 6XE

Tel 01 935 6183.

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANTS ONLY
Please call BANC on 01 309 0084

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Central London c.£20,000

No. 1 in cinema/film distribution in over 45 countries, this £300m T/O multi-national offers a superb entry to the Leisure Industry.

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The successful candidate, aged 23-27, will be seeking a broad business career within a fascinating industry and the opportunity to move away from line accounting.

Please contact NICOLA LENDRUM quoting Ref: 4306 on 01-404 3155, at ALDERWICK PEACHELL & PARTNERS (Financial Recruitment Consultants), 125 High Holborn, London WC1V 6QA.

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PARTNERS LTD

ENGINEERING**TRINITY HOUSE LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE, LONDON**

has a vacancy for a
Radio Communications Engineer

(Higher Professional & Technology Officer, Radio & Development)
Salary between £11,619 and £14,470 p.a.

To work with and assist the Radio Engineer, who is responsible for Radio Aids to Navigation and Communication Systems, including liaison on radio matters with UK Regulatory Departments and Lighthouse Authorities.

The work includes procurement, installation and commissioning of radio navigation and communications equipment, preparation of procurement specifications and reports and the acceptance testing of equipment at manufacturer's works and in the field.

Applicants should possess an appropriate degree or equivalent qualification and have had at least 2 years professional experience and a sound training in data and radio engineering with experience in MF, VHF and UHF techniques. Experience with the latest communications technology, test equipment and commissioning equipment on site is essential.

Applicants should be able to organise and plan their work and supervise maintenance personnel.

The position which is pensionable, offers a generous leave allowance, travel in the United Kingdom and flexible working hours.

Application forms may be obtained from The Personnel Manager, Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3N 4TH, 01-480 6601 ext. 2250.

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TELEPHONE LONDON (01) 583 1661

FAX (01) 353 8538

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ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

CHARTERED M.E.N.G. Overseas petrochemical construction management worldwide. Urals plants, gas facilities, public utilities. Negotiable package c.£20K. Home office based.

CHARTERED STRUCTURAL ENG. Consultant background. Southwest, P.C., structures, brickwork. 35-40 years. SE England/London. Salary negotiable.

CHARTERED C.E.N.G. (MICE/PMES). External works, paving, estate roads, coldwater supply, foul service water, London. Consultancy, nationwide projects. Salary negotiable.

CHARTERED ENGINEERS for project management (MICE/CIOB). Fast track shell & core, refurbishments, Progressive Management Contractor, London/Surrey 125-30 + benefits.

Contact I.S. Mitchell for forward full CV in confidence to:

Angel House
60 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1BE

CASTLE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU**Technical Sales Manager Gas Scrubbers**

Our Client, a Sussex Company manufacturing capital equipment for the chemical and petroleum industries wishes to expand its products to include a range of gas scrubbers. These are presently being designed and sold extensively within the group on the European Continent.

After a period of training in Germany, the Technical Sales Manager will be required to set up a department to design, sell and later manufacture this equipment for the U.K. market. He/she should be a graduate engineer, probably aged 30-40 with experience of gas scrubbers and a thorough knowledge of this market.

Please write enclosing C.V. and quote current salary etc. to:

12 Old Printing House Arcade
Tarrant Street, ARUNDEL, West Sussex
TELEPHONE ARUNDEL 855175

EGYPT

Candidates must hold Mechanical or Civil Engineering Degree and 10 years' experience in project based construction experience in Mechanical or Civil.

Familiarity with hydro-carbon processes. We offer good terms and conditions. Home leave on 6 and 2 years.

SAUDI ARABIA

Chemistry Laboratory Technicians

Candidates must hold BSc or HNC equivalent and should have 305 years' experience in laboratory work.

We offer good terms and conditions. Please forward detailed C.V. quoting ref 071 to:

C-E VETCO SERVICES GROUP, Victoria House,
72 Station Road, Hayes, Middlesex. UB3 4DP.

PRIVATE HEALTHCARE ACCOUNTANTS

St. Martins Hospitals are a group of private hospitals in Central London. We have two current vacancies for young, qualified accountants looking to develop their careers in a progressive environment.

Hospital Finance Manager Salary £19,000 to £21,000 plus car.

To take full responsibility for the finance function at our Devonshire Hospital in the West End.

Management Accountant Salary £17,000 to £20,000

Based at our Head Office near London Bridge, to take full responsibility for the production of management and statutory accounts for the Group.

Salary will be dependent on age and experience. Other benefits will include private health insurance and contributory pension scheme.

Application with detailed CV to:

Mr. Roy McLellan, Director of Finance,
St. Martins Hospitals Limited,
London Bridge Hospital,
27 Tooley Street, London SE1 2PR

SALARIED PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING SALESPERSON SECURE YOUR FUTURE WITH GRESHAM

We are looking for high calibre experienced professionals with proven and successful careers in sales and selling investment, pension, mortgage and life products to the general public.

In return we offer generous salaries, negotiable according to your experience, staff commission and expenses, a choice of company car, car/motorcycle pension scheme, free life assurance and permanent health cover.

Gresham Assurance Group has a very great deal to offer being part of the £7 billion Dutch financial services group N.V. Amstel. Our portfolio contains highly competitive and varied investment and pension products as well as a very successful unit trust. The investment performance is second to none and our reputation for service is well known.

Salaries range from £10,000 to £20,000 and we recognise that having a high calibre sales force is essential to our success.

We believe that now is the time to find out more about what Gresham has to offer. Just ring Gresham on 0202 707666.

She will be able to answer your questions. Your call will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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40% WORLDWIDE TRAVEL FOR NEWLY QUALIFIEDS TO £20,000

Our client is the 2nd largest Bank - Holding Co. in the USA and provides a whole range of diversified financial services. Due to expansion of its UK operations young AGAs are required in the London based internal audit dept.

Gain experience in all aspects of banking, including FX, loans, securities and set yourself up for life.

The UK division is responsible for the auditing of locations in the Middle East, Europe and Africa.

You are aggressive, bright and enjoy the prospect of worldwide travel.

Call Stephen now for more details

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HORIZONS

A guide to
career development

A cry for the over-40s

From Act II of George Bernard Shaw's *Major Barbara*.

Peter Shirley: I'm not an old man. I'm only 46. I'm as good as ever I was. The grey patch came in my hair before I was thirty. All it wants is three pennorth o' hair dye and I to be turned on the streets to starve for it? Holy God! I've worked ten to twelve hours a day since I was thirteen and paid my way all through, and now am I to be thrown into the gutter and my job given to a young man that can do it no better than me because I've got black hair that goes white at the first change?



and experience purely on the grounds of age," and "for most jobs automatically excluding entire age groups is wasteful for organizations as well as damaging to individuals."

position to go for job satisfaction rather than the last penny. Certainly in the South-East, the over-40s, with any luck, less likely to be servicing a crippling contemporary mortgage at today's rates. If a jobhunter is ready to price himself into a job why not hire him?

The retirement age in Britain is 65 for men and 60 for women. The retirement age in Britain is 65 for men and 60 for women. That needed saying twice. There seems to be a dangerous and disquieting rumour abroad that it is 50 or 45 or 40. Losing a job when over 40 has always been recognized as a stressful experience. Psychologists have placed it second only to bereavement.

In today's job market, over-40 job loss can be turned from a setback to a disaster by two major factors. One is the reality of age discrimination. The other is the undeniable fact that the skilled job market works neither efficiently nor swiftly. It is sluggish, way out of kilter.

Companies order headhunters to weed out applicants from the over-40s. A recent survey of recruitment advertising by MSL International found that of advertised posts indicating an age range, 88 per cent specified a limit of 40. Only 2.5 per cent asked for over-45s.

As MSL executive Mike Carr said: "It's a waste of talent but the requirement comes from the clients. Bluntly, age limits are a way of selecting people out. Age discrimination seems to be a British peculiarity. Top jobs in other countries are more often filled by executive search so you would never see advertisements specifying age limits. In America and France it is illegal to specify age limits in employment advertising."

The over-40 job-seeker may take a while to cotton on to the depressing fact that the market in people works one hundred times more slowly than any other market in the world.

The middlemen and women who should be bringing willing sellers and willing buyers together, in practice, often keep them apart. Why the job market is not working for many skilled unemployed is because personnel departments which used to deal with pay, ratings and records now have a strange hold on recruitment.

True, some personnel departments are good and staffed by competent professionals who, if members of the Institute of Personnel Management, should follow its recommended code of practice, which states: "There is no justification for ignoring a pool of talent."

But far too many personnel departments are on an empire-building ego-trip, playing their discredited psych-quizz parlour games and operating by yesterday's criteria.

Their dictums are:

● If an applicant is unemployed, there's something wrong with him or her.

● If an applicant is prepared to work for less than their salary in their last job, there's something wrong with him or her.

● If an applicant has had a senior position and is now prepared to move sideways or to a less top job, there's something wrong with him or her.

These three fatal fallacies are based on the thinking of the full employment 1960s and 1970s and may well have had some validity then. In today's climate they are not merely damaging but daft.

Take the first. A recent survey, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, studied recruitment practices of personnel and line managers in 64 UK companies. Managers were asked whether they discriminated against unemployed applicants at the sifting stage. Sixty-five per cent did.

Theresa Crowley-Banton, who carried out the study, asked managers if they found recruitment easier in the 1980s with more people on the job market.

The answer is illuminating. Those who were willing to interview the unemployed did find it easier. Those who were less open-minded found recruitment more difficult.

"By screening out unemployed applicants, recruiters waste time and money pursuing a core of superficially more desirable employed applicants with power to pick and choose among employers," she found. In this country, let's face it, we do not have an enterprise culture yet.

In America, business at every level accepts the realities of risk including the downside, which means every now and again good, competent people are going to be found "on the beach". No shame. No stigma. No reluctance to hire.

Fallacy three, that older executives will not accept anything but the top spot, flatly contradicts all the research which has shown the valuable mentoring, training and stabilizing role senior employees can contribute to an organization.

Organizations are like tribes and tribes without elders or role models for the young are dangerously destabilized.

When people see no future role for their over-40s colleagues or, indeed, themselves some years on, it breeds a short-term, strip-the-assets, screw-the-firm, make-your-pile-and-get-out-fast philosophy among the young Turks countered by a management attitude of hire yuppies, pay 'em plenty, burn 'em out then kick 'em out.

When countries are evaluated for stability by international investors, one factor which always gives cause for alarm is the number of jobless graduates. Because it probably hasn't occurred anywhere but in Britain 1987, no one has yet reckoned the cost and consequences of a pool of the prime-of-life able being excluded.

It worries me. It ought to worry Lord Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary.

At the least it must lead, preferably sooner rather than later, to the formation of a powerful single interest pressure group which could lobby hard.

It could field by-election candidates, insist on knowing where every individual MP stands on age discrimination in employment practice and advertising, and enlist the collective muscle of the "able excluded" and their families as consumers, shareholders and citizens.

It's high time the voice of the "able excluded" was heard. Especially when a government advertisement for casual, part-time, casual mark you, interviewers for a research survey, stipulates an upper age limit of 45, then has the brass neck to run a line saying: "The Civil Service is an equal opportunities employer."

David Kingsley

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To manage our rather complex business procedure we require an experienced Accountant who is familiar with the use of a computerised system for all aspects of accounting, and who preferably has some knowledge of implementing computerised accounting and costing systems.

Formal accounting qualifications although desirable, are not essential but candidates should have the maturity and confidence to advise senior management and to work under pressure.

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Company Secretary and will receive benefits including pension scheme membership. Leatherhead is very well situated in the Surrey countryside just off the M25 and within a 40 minute train journey of London.

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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صكا من الامل

Ahonita breaks record

year."

Swedes plan a Norman conquest

Davies continues pursuit of Reid

Bearded wonder: Norman ponders the changing face of golf

Dr Lunt decided to write his letter after noting recent comments in *The Times* which were in line with his own feelings. "When doctors see this sort of thing happening, and have to treat some nasty injuries, they feel like giving up," he said. "One doctor I know is on the verge of giving up."

National health on the line

SPORTS LETTERS

No shades of grey

Achievement overlooked

Gross distortion

the team which won the Refugee Assurance Sunday League had the lowest number of abandoned matches. The team had only one "no result" whereas the official runners-up, Nottinghamshire, had four.

The final league positions would have been reversed if only actual matches had been counted. Nottinghamshire won 19 out of 25, giving 44 points, an average of 2.93 per match, whereas Nottinghamshire won 9

Surely the TCGB should reconsider the way in which points are allocated in this competition, to ensure in future years that the most successful team is proclaimed winner.

Yours faithfully,
PROFESSOR R. M. W. NIXON,
 Director of Linguistic Arts,
 The Australian National University,
 GPO Box 4, Canberra.

SWIMMING

Learn how to race is Haller's advice

He explained: "With international swimming becoming so highly developed, world records will no longer be broken so frequently at Olympic Games and other world events. Only split seconds will separate the best finalists with any of them capable of winning. This is

BASKETBALL

Kingston inspired by Scott and McNish

● Cedric Wright, an Illinoisan, a 6ft 5in forward, scored 21 points and took 10 rebounds to lead Manchester United to the second round of the European Korac Cup despite losing 76-68 against Panionios. "Wright scored some big baskets after the Greeks went 12 points up with eight minutes to go," said Wright. "I was confident, said as his side qualified 145-142 to meet Maccabi of Spain.

To learn to race against the opposition and the clock."

He explained: "With international swimming becoming so highly developed, world records will no longer be broken so frequently at Olympic Games and other world events. Only the best swimmers from the eight finalists with any of them capable of winning. This is sound logic."

BASKETBALL

Kingston inspired by Scott and McNish

From Nicholas Harling, Den Helder, The Netherlands

"Not since Soviet Stars upset the gigantic Yugoslavs at Cibona Zagreb four years ago, have an American coach inspired such a remarkable result in Europe as the Yugoslav Director did here [against Direkt Bach Den Helder in Tuesday night].

"The previous favored Kingston was heavily beaten by the Estonians in the town of the Dutch navy, until they rugged Russian strategy to earn them an 84-82 second leg victory for a winning aggregate of 169-164.

"Although Colin McNish had dislocated a finger on his right hand and Kenny Scott had a broken nose, Kingston turned everything into a greater will to win their European Cup winners' Cup first round tie — McNish underlining the team spirit by coming back from his injury, convincing duties.

"Spectacular use of his one good and two with two dunks."

Nor was Scott afflicted by laying without a face guard. In his 17 points and McNish's final of 10 showed the resolve Kingston will need to survive.

Merthyr go out but give the Italians a fright

From Simon Barnes
Bergamo

Atalanta 2
Merthyr Tydfil 0

(Atalanta win 3-2 on aggregate)

As defeats go, this was a pretty wonderful experience. Merthyr, from the Be'er Homes League, midlands division, played their socks off against this side from the Italian second division, and if football matches could ever be judged on their emotional value, Merthyr would have marched on into the second round of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

They were never overrun, and if anything, they were rather unlucky to lose. They were as close as bedlam for pulling off what would have been, perhaps, the most astounding result in European football history.

This was always going to be a culture shock sort of game. The Stadio Comunale in Bergamo is not quite the same as Fenway Park. Merthyr Tydfil, and the supporters are slightly different, too.

Merthyr's notion of a hostile crowd is when they face a fearsome 1,800 in a local derby against Barry. Atalanta's aspirations and experience are something quite different. Their hardcore supporters sing Verdi and march under a banner that reads: "Wild Kaos". Merthyr's supporters — and

they were here in their tens — carried a banner reading: "Hello Gail and the kids."

Merthyr Tydfil's part-timers — *La Gazzetta dello Sport* refers to them as "i dilettanti di Merthyr Tydfil" — have the far from dilettante Bob Latchford on their strength, but he was laid low by the proverbial groin strain. But really, nothing about non-League football is dilettante these days.

They say the start is all-important in these sort of games, and it must be doubly so for dilettanti. Especially as the Bergamo supporters began by unveiling a flag 50 yards long, and followed up with a blaze of fireworks and a smoke bomb that filled the stadium with a foul-smelling mustard-coloured cloud.

Merthyr began the actual match without anxiety and even had the first corner. But then Atalanta began to find a little rhythm and started to come forward in force, seeking the single goal they needed for victory on aggregate.

Wager, rated highly as a goalkeeper even outside Merthyr — he is a non-League international — was soon catching, punching and scrambling the ball away.

But after 16 minutes the goal came, Garlini stabbing home an off-target shot from Icardi. Merthyr wondered in vain about offside, and it looked as though that may have been the case.

A minute later the ball was in the net again — but this time the referee ruled it out because he wanted to book Ceri Williams for encroaching. The kick was retaken, but Wager got his hands to that one.

And then came the second, Cantarutti crashing in his header from Garlini's cross. That made it two goals and one disallowed goal in three minutes, and one would not fancy a first division side's chances of coming back from that situation.

Merthyr's effort was wonderful to see. They kept their heads and their discipline and groped their way back into the match. There were even a couple of chances, Mullen and Webley both heading wide from set-pieces.

Merthyr needed one goal to force extra time, and they never stopped going for it. They launched raid after raid, and for the most part it was Atalanta who relied on counter-punching.

Ceri Williams — what a splendid sight he had — clouted a splendidly dramatic long-range effort late in the day that the Italian goalkeeper touched away, but Atalanta did the defending with composure interspersed with occasional bursts of panic.

ATALANTA: G. Rossi, C. Prandelli, C. Gentile, D. Forlano, D. Protti, A. Icardi, G. Scaramella, E. Nazzari, A. Cantarutti, G. Innocenti, O. Garlini.
MERTHYR TYDFIL: G. Wager, D. Tong, C. Ceri, R. Mullen, P. Fennell, N. Rafter, N. French, D. Webley, C. Williams, A. Beattie, C. Williams, R. Williams, V. Williams (goals).

World Cup hosts compete

By Ian Stafford

Brazil, Chile, Morocco and the United States are still competing for the right to stage the 1994 World Cup finals, according to the governing body of international football, FIFA. The hosts will be announced by FIFA on June 30 next year.

A Brazilian representative arrived at FIFA's headquarters in Zurich yesterday. The United States, who unsuccessfully applied for the 1996 World Cup, and Morocco have already made their initial presentations and FIFA has received confirmation from Chile that the necessary documentation has been sent to meet their deadline, midnight last night. Two other countries which had applied to stage the finals — Benin and Algeria — withdrew their bids last April.

There is a feeling that if Morocco or the United States can convince the inspection party that they could cope with football's most important tournament, one of them will be picked as the first country outside Europe or Latin America to host the finals.

Fitzpatrick patron saint of Paisley

From a Special Correspondent, Tromsø

Tromsø 0
St Mirren 1-0 on aggregate

(St Mirren win 1-0 on aggregate)

Alex Smith, the St Mirren manager, quite properly acknowledged the heroic part played by his substitute, Tony Fitzpatrick, in the Scottish Cup holders' passage to the second round of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

The midfielder, aged 31, who left the bench after 16 minutes to replace Billy Abercromby, victim of an Achilles tendon injury, proceeded to control most of the match

thereafter, allowing the Paisley side to retain the slender advantage they had gained in the first leg two weeks ago.

"I could not be more grateful for having a player of Tony's experience and ability available to come on in these circumstances," Smith said. "He said earlier this season that he wanted to leave the club but we are now hopeful that he will stay."

Abercromby may be out of football for three weeks. That was the only disappointing aspect of a match that sees the Scots into the second round

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

European Cup Winners' Cup

First round, second leg

ATLANTA (2) 2 MERTHYR T (1) 0

(St Mirren win 1-0 on aggregate)

TROMSØ (0) 0 ST MIRREN (0) 0

(St Mirren win 1-0 on aggregate)

OTHER MATCHES: Dynamo Bucharest (Rom) 0, Maccabi Tel Aviv (Isr) 2 (agg. 0-3);

Göteborg (Swe) 1, Dynamo Minsk (USSR) 2 (agg. 1-4);

Örebro (Swe) 0, Celtic (Sco) 3;

Vicenza (Ita) 1 (agg. 3-2).

EUROPEAN CUP: First round, second leg: Dynamo Berlin (DDR) 0, Borussia (Ger) 2 (agg. 0-4);

Galatasaray (Tur) 2, PSV Eindhoven (Neth) 0 (agg. 2-3);

Hannover 91 (Ger) 0, Real Madrid (Span) 1 (agg. 0-1);

Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger) 1, Borussia Dortmund (Ger) 2 (agg. 1-3);

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Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger) 1, Borussia Dortmund (Ger) 2 (agg. 1-3);

Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger) 1, Borussia Dortmund (Ger) 2 (agg. 1-3);



Chin-high rough: Bruce Forsyth (right) suggests Sam Torrance could do with a shave. Dunhill Cup preview, page 44

Eastern bloc joins drugs fight

From Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent
Athens

The campaign against drugs in sport was given a crucial boost with the announcement yesterday of an initiative that goes far beyond anything the Eastern bloc countries have previously admitted or proposed.

It came first in the form of a written appeal, disseminated at the eighth European Sports Conference here by "leaders of sports organizations in Socialist countries". The tacit recognition of the extent of drug-taking in Eastern Europe in the document was then corroborated, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned, by Nikolai Rusak, who is No. 2 to Anatoly Granov on the Soviet Olympic Committee.

In what Sir Arthur Gold, one of the long-time British campaigners against drugs in sport, called "an historic document", the Eastern Europeans recognized the importance of international co-operation in the campaign against doping, especially in testing all year round across national borders. The Eastern Europeans welcomed the commitment of international bodies

Berne (AP) — Sandra Gasser, the Swiss athlete, said she would fight to prove that she was not guilty of using drugs when she won the 1,500 metre bronze medal at the world championships in Rome.

"I know that I have not taken any forbidden substance," Miss Gasser told *Sport*, the Swiss newspaper. "That gives me the strength to do everything to resolve this case and to have the ban from next year's Olympic Games lifted." Two urine samples from Miss Gasser indicated the presence of testosterone, a hormone used to build muscle.

and individual athletes for their positive attitude towards anti-doping measures, and urged both longer penalties ("even for life") and the surprise inclusion of physicians, coaches and officials for censure.

Rusak said: "We do not hold back on the problem, it exists, and the sports organizations are leading the struggle in our country." Referring to the document, which came out of the seminar for East European sports organizers on the Black Sea last month, Sir

Arthur said: "This goes as far as we could hope or expect."

"It seems not only from today's events, but from reaction in Europe as a whole that there is an awareness of the dangers both moral and to health of drug-taking in sport. We can only hope that a full implementation of these measures will have influence on the other side of the Atlantic. There is one major country which treats doping in a cavalier fashion. If the United States authorities would take this problem by the scruff of the neck, not only giving it lip service but direct action, the battle against drugs could be won in Europe as well."

Sir Arthur was also referring to Sebastian Coe's presentation of a commentary on *The Misuse of Drugs in Sport*, which he co-authored with Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport. This report, reaching even further than the Eastern European initiative, was warmly received by the delegates yesterday. The report, whose essential thrust is to take the responsibility for drug testing out of the hands of the sports federations, thereby eliminating one of the potential areas for abuse, was released in Britain a fortnight

ago. And Coe hopes that a fully independent, random system of dope-testing can be operational in the United Kingdom by next summer.

Coe also strongly criticized hints from the Amateur Athletic Association on a new selection procedure for drug-testing at future major championships. He criticized the projection of a first-two-post selection, plus one other, whereas for the last decade, there has been an open selection procedure — one that has been largely successful.

Sir Arthur regretted that it would still be too late to implement testing on an international scale before the Olympic Games in Seoul. But he said: "It always takes longer than expected, and as long as it is 19 years since I first brought up the question of drug abuse in Mexico in 1968."

Rusak was more cautious on the Soviet Union's participation in Seoul, saying that a decision on the summer Games (the Soviets have accepted the invitation to Calgary), "depends on the result of discussions between the Olympic committees of North and South Korea."

Oval stand project threatened

Surrey County Cricket Club have decided not to proceed with the proposed £4.5 million redevelopment of the West Stand at the Oval unless the club's application for an urban development grant is approved by the Government.

A decision on the club's application for a grant of £1 million is expected soon from the Minister for the Environment, David Trippier. The project has the support of Lambeth Council, the Sports Council, and community groups, but there is considerable doubt whether the Government will support it.

The club chairman, Derek Newton, said: "We don't understand why the Government does not grasp the opportunity of promoting development in this very deprived inner London area."

Small ball outlawed

The Royal and Ancient yesterday decided to ban the use of the 1.02-inch golf ball in any form of recognized competition from January 1, 1990, as part of a number of changes to the rules of the game.

A player will now be permitted to borrow a club from another player on the course, provided the club was broken accidentally. The rule would not have helped Ben Crenshaw in the Ryder Cup last week: he broke his putter by banging it on the ground deliberately.

Hi-Tec agree

Hi-Tec, the Essex sports shoe company, has reversed its decision to withdraw its £100,000 sponsorship of the British Open squash championships when it was understood that BBC television coverage of the event would include adequate exposure of the company's identity.

'Arrogance' claim on Lord's officials

Narendra Salve, the chairman of the cricket World Cup organizing committee, has claimed that the "arrogance" of officials at Lord's in 1983 prompted India and Pakistan to bid to stage this year's competition.

Salve, a high-ranking politician, was president of India's Cricket Board when the last World Cup was held four years ago in England. Despite that, he says, his request to take four friends to the final — won by India — was turned down.

"The arrogance of the officials at Lord's in refusing to give us tickets brought home to me the bitter reality, that India may reach the top position in cricket but in the politics of the International Cricket Conference [which is based at Lord's] we had been

Warming up with a win

Salve's comments appear in a book he has written to celebrate the fourth World Cup, the first to be staged outside England. Its publication yesterday coincided with the official opening ceremony in Delhi.

Earlier this week, Salve accused the Test and County Cricket Board of "impertinence" over arrangements for a single-wicket competition in Hong Kong which coincides with the World Cup final on November 8 and, he claimed, is part of a plot to wreck his tournament.

● DELHI (AP) — John Embury, England's vice-captain, has been advised to rest for a week after spraining his ankle playing tennis yesterday morning.

Delhi: no singling-out

Delhi (AFP) — India beat Pakistan by 14 runs in a day-night World Cup warm-up match at the Nehru Stadium here yesterday which raised money for India's drought fund. Maninder Singh, India's left-arm spinner, took three wickets for 35 and claimed the man of the match award. India, the World Cup holders, were roared on by a sizeable crowd at the ground, which can hold 70,000.

For Pakistan, who were chasing a modest total of 207 for eight, only Ejaz Ahmed, with a confident 78 before he was run out, looked like providing them with a realistic chance of winning. They collapsed once Wasim Akram was caught on the boundary for 24 and finished their 45 overs on 193 for nine. Shastri took two wickets, including that of Javed Miandad, who was Pakistan's acting captain in the absence of Imran Khan, whose father is ill.

When India batted, Vengsarkar made a refined 51 and Kapil Dev, their captain, a swashbuckling 38. Salim Jaffer returned Pakistan's best bowling figures of two for 34.

An uneven pitch in the middle of a synthetic athletics track, which cut through the bumpy outfield, did nothing to help conditions.

SCORERS: India: 207 for 8 (55 overs). D. Vengsarkar 51; Kapil Dev 38; Shastri 38; Ejaz Ahmed 78; India won by 14 runs.

On the ball

Jack Simmons, of Lancashire, took four wickets for five runs as MCC defeated a Central Counties XI by 10 wickets and followed up with three for 27 in a seven-wicket victory over Bermuda on MCC's tour of the West Indies.

RESULTS: Central Counties 26 all out (Doughty 5-7; Simmons 4-5); MCC 27-0; MCC won by 10 wickets. Bermuda 20-0 (Simmons 5-7; MCC 20-0). (Matches 18 not out, N. Wainwright 81 not out, MCC won seven wickets, MCC 150 all out, Eastern Counties 47 all out, (Wainwright 81, MCC won by 93 runs).

The best of all time at Anfield

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Liverpool, overwhelming favourites to win the League championship again, have already collected two unofficial titles. They are regarded as the best side ever to be seen at Anfield, and the most exciting in England since the effervescent days of Best, Law and Charlton at Manchester United, more than two decades ago.

If anyone who witnessed on television their crashing victory over Newcastle United required further evidence, it was provided at Anfield on Tuesday night. Their humiliation of Derby County by the thoroughly misleading score of 4-0 was a glorious exhibition that more than touched perfection. They held on to it for 90 minutes.

For sustained brilliance, their performance was astonishing. Even ageing observers were left scratching their memories to recall a display of such controlled power, of such elegant imagination, of such menacing hunger.

Derby, like Newcastle nine days previously, did well to finish second, albeit by a profoundly substantial margin. But for the reflexes of Shilton, Liverpool would without question have reached double figures.

The England and Derby goalkeeper, who was given an alarmingly consistent view of Liverpool's various qualities, has no doubt about their strength. "That is the best they've ever played against me," he said.

Since he has been opposing them for some 20 years, his opinion is significant. It embraces all of the seasons during which Liverpool have dominated the domestic game. But he notes a difference in their style which makes them even more difficult to contain and even more thrilling to watch.

"With two up front, they were a bit predictable. But not now. They are more adaptable, more awkward to mark." The prolific contribution of Rush may have been cut off but in his place Kenny Dalglish has



Dalglish: no singling-out grown, or rather acquired, three lively and elusive talents in his attack.

Aldridge, with three goals against Derby, lifted his total to nine in a mere seven League games. As a boy he used to stand on the Kop and dream of such a night.

"When I got the hat-trick, I wanted the moment to go on for ever," he said.

Aldridge felt that "it was our best performance for prolonged pressure". So did Barnes, who provokes the same reaction in Liverpool's crowd as Best once did at Old Trafford. With the belief that he has found in his extravagant ability, he carries with him the constant threat of the unexpected.

"I know how Derby must have felt," he added. "I have been on the receiving end many a time myself." Yet he and Beardsley, who claimed his first goal at Anfield, have lit a flame of individuality that did not shine as brightly in the former years of all-round efficiency.

Although Dalglish admitted that his side's dazzling display was "our best of the season so far", he preferred not to select any player for particular credit. He reserves such comments for the privacy of the dressing room and his household rather than for public consumption.

He pointed out that "every single one of them made a tremendous contribution."

"They all have, since the beginning of the season, and that is the important thing." Frightening though his squad may be, Dalglish is not concerned about the potential prizes they could reach or the lavish praise they have already earned.

Yet he does appreciate that "even neutrals would enjoy the way we are playing". There is only one problem. With the likes of Law, Simmons, Molloy and Walsh standing idly in the wings, he may be unable to claim a place for himself in the centre of Liverpool's finest stage.

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